ROBERT



Shakespeare in Tears: 'I thank our miraculous cast [sobs] and crew [sobs] and my family [more sobs] who I love more than anything'









"Thank you so much everybody...' An emotional Gwyneth Paltrow accepts the Oscar for Best Actress for her part as Viola in the film 'Shakespeare in Love'. Report, page 7

Gary Hershorn/Eric Draper

Straw halts release of IRA men

longer terms in prison, after the Home Secretary obtained an interim order setting aside the decision by the Northern Ireland Friday Agreement

ernment to slow down the early release of IRA prisoners, and tion from the republican movement at a time when the peace

process hangs in the balance. public outcry over the disclo- prison. In 1986 Magee, then Straw: Interim order

Chief Political Correspondent AND DAVID MCKFTTRICK

whether the four should serve sniper team, jailed last week for a total of 600 years, could be released within 16 months.

The commission yesterday approved the immediate re-Sentence Review Commission lease of three prisoners - Paul to allow the prisoners' imme- Kavanagh, Thomas Quigley, diate release under the Good and Gerard McDonnell, who were jailed for life for bombing The unprecedented move is campaigns on the mainland the first attempt by the Gov- but transferred to serve their sentences in Northern Ireland. The commission's decision risks provoking an angry reac- would have brought forward the

release date of Magee. Judges recommended that two of them, Magee and Downing Street denied the Thomas Quigley, should each move was in response to the serve not less than 35 years in

exploded at the Grand Hotel during the 1984 Conservative conference, killing five people.



tended to wipe out a large part

IRA folk hero for coming close to killing Margaret Thatcher, who was then at the top of the IRA's assassination list. Kavanagh and Quigley were sentenced to life imprisonment in 1985 on three counts of mur-

> der and possession of explo-McDonnell, then 35, was sentenced to life imprisonment after being tried with Magee. He was convicted of conspiring to cause a series of explosions at seaside

> The Prime Minister's official spokesman said the Home Secretary had intervened as part

Technology Editor

ropean goods.

top of \$800m of products rang-

ing from cashmere sweaters to

perfume, already affected by a

parallel row with the US over

European imports of bananas.

victims' families pointed out that IRA men were being released before any weapons were surrendered under the Good Friday Agreement.

William Hague, the Tory leader, has called for the releases to be suspended until the IRA begins decommissioning its weapons, an approach rejected by Tony Blair.

Mr Straw sought the judicial review on the grounds that the commission had been wrong to assess the men's sentences as if they had been jailed in the Province. A different tariff operates for prisoners sentenced on mainland Britain under the of the "due process" of the law, Northern Ireland Sentences process when they meet

spokesman said: "The Gov-But the policy has been one ing our obligations under the Good Friday Agreement. The Government thinks that it is important to clarify the application of the law as it applies to prisoners transferred from England and Wales to Northern in Northern Ireland Ireland."

The Government said that if circumstances permitted, all the qualifying prisoners would be released under the terms of the Agreement by July 2000. That now depends on the peace process holding together, and intensive efforts are being made to prevent it collapsing

before the Easter deadline. Mr Blair and Bertie Ahern, the Irish Prime Minister, are expected to discuss a joint initiative to secure the peace

mit in Berlin. The two leaders Trimble to give ground to avoid ernment is committed to meet- are planning jointly to meet the the peace process breaking party leaders in Northern Ireagreement which will enable

Sinn Fein last night reacted angrily to the development, ac-Gerry Adams, the Sinn Fein cusing Mr Straw of interfering with the Agreement and of havpresident, to join the executive ing double standards. Gerry Kelly, party spokes-

man, said: "His behaviour is unacceptable. Sinn Fein believes that the decision of the review board to release the four men is the right one. Mr Straw should withdraw any procedures to change that decision." Rough justice, page 3

Nato gets mandate | US prepares £560m to hit Serb targets

sevic was given a final warning yesterday that the West is "on the brink of military action" over Kosovo. The warning came as Nato received a mandate to hit military targets all over Yugoslavia.

As the message was delivered to Mr Milosevic by the United States envoy, Richard Holbrooke, the Serbs showed heir contempt for the West's seace proposal by torching Kosovo villages, murdering civilians and driving thousands more from their homes...

European leaders and Nato's most senior general insisted that only a change of heart from Belgrade could now avert air strikes. General Wesley Clark, Nato's supreme commander threatened to "strike in a swift and severe fashion" if Mr Holbrooke returns from Belgrade empty-handed

PRESIDENT SLOBODAN Milo- By STEPHEN CASTLE in Brussels AND EMMA DALY

> Tony Blair also said that he and the French President, Jacques Chirac, had agreed Nato would have no choice but to bomb Serb targets unless Beigrade backed down. "They agreed the situation is now grave," a spokesman said. "If Milosevic does not stop his offensive immediately and sign up to the Rambouillet (peace) accord. Nato has no option but to act."

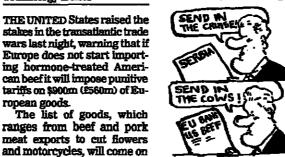
In Washington, President Bill Clinton was more cautious, insisting the US still sought "a peaceful solution". The US President would only say: "If Milosevic continues to choose aggression over peace, Nato plans must move forward." A meeting of Nato ambassadors in Brussels gave the Secretary-General, Javier Solana, the right to authorise attacks not only on Serb air defences but to strike at targets throughout the country.

Nato has about 400 aircraft ready to launch strikes, as well as US submarines and surface ships capable of firing cruise In Belgrade, state television said Mr Milosevic had sent a

fierce letter to the French and British foreign ministers saying Serbia would not accept an imposed solution. He said Robin Cook and Hubert Vedrine should be ashamed of themselves for threatening a small European nation with bombing.

The situation in Kosovo is deteriorating fast. Nato sources believe about 22 per cent of the 2 million population have been iven from their homes. long-standing ban imposed by Ferocious assault, page 11 the European Union in 1989. chiven from their homes.

BY CHARLES ARTHUR THE UNITED States raised the stakes in the transatlantic trade wars last night, warning that if



trade war on Europe

The US insists that the meat is safe, as the process has been approved by its Food and Drug Administration, and that there-

said imports will not be allowed

Now the US says that Eufore it should not be labelled. rope must begin imports of But Sue Dibb, of the Food beef made from cattle which Commission, a consumer have been injected with bovine group, said: "We should be able growth hormone, despite a to say that we don't want it." EU foreign ministers have

to begin before the completion of full scientific studies on the hormone's possible harmful effects. The EU has offered to pay compensation to the US for loss of export earnings, but the Americans are demanding compliance by 13 May with a World Trade Organisation edict that the ban breaches trade rules. A third source of dispute is on aircraft; the EU has brought in a requirement that older aircraft flying here should be equipped with noisereducing "hush kits". But the US has threatened to ban Concordes operated by British Air-

ways and Air France. Nick Brown, the Minister of Agriculture, said the US "would be within its rights" to impose the tarrifs. He said: "The UK has always opposed the EU ban on the grounds that it is not jus-

tified by the science." GM food row, page 8

THE INDEPENDENT ABROAD

How to become a freelance writer

Preelance writing can be fiction and non-fiction writing. creative, fulfilling and a lot of The 140,000 word course is fun, with excellent money to be written by professional writers

made as well. What's more. anyone can become a writer, experts. No special qualifications or experience are required. The market for writers is huge. In Britain alone there are

of the power-sharing Assembly

Uniopist leader and First Min-

ister, is refusing to set up the

executive until decommis-

sioning begins but the two gov-

ernments have made clear

there can be no preconditions

and they will be putting pres-

David Trimble, the Ulster

around 1,000 daily, Sunday and weekly papers, and more than 8.000 magazines. Many of the stories and articles that they publish are supplied by freelances. Then there are books, theatre, films, TV, radio... With such demand, there's always room for new writers.

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working writers themselves. From the start they are shown how to produce saleable work. 'At the Bureau our philosophy is quite simple says Mr. Metcalfe. 'We will do everything in our power to help students become published

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INSIDE THIS SECTION New benefit checks Government plans to save film by checks on new benefit claimants

Home P2 Inner-city schools New plans for inner-city education launched

'Dr Death' trial opens Jury selection began in trial of Jack Kevorkian, euthanasia advocate Foreign P13

EU succession Romano Prodi is leading the field to succeed Santer Foreign P14

Former Barclays chief executive Martin Taylor agreed a £1.6m pay-off Business P15 England v Poland David Batty is out of

England's team

Sport P26

Taylor's £1.6m deal

INSIDE THE REVIEW David Aaronovitch Elia Kazan's Oscar has reminded us of the shame of McCarthyism

Deborah Orr Blair's latest scheme for schools is risible Comment P5

A scholarly scrap Victoria Glendinning and Shirley Conran in the latest literary feud Features P8

Quentin Blake The man who drew Dahl's kindly monsters Arts P9



TODAY'S TELEVISION

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Assistem 5.00 Sta
Radigiam ... 100 Bir
Cancada 3.50 CS Ballia ... 0.65c
Cayrons ... 1.20 C2 Ballia ... 0.65c
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The Writers Bureau

BUSINESSREVIEW

BUSINESS REVIEW

WITH HAMISH MCRAE, DIANE COYLE, DEREK PAIN, JO DAVIS AND THE TRADER

Drivers threaten to extend blockade Benefits to

LIGHTING UP

6.42pm 6.25pm 6.28pm 6.36pm 6.18pm 6.27pm 6.25pm

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HUNDREDS OF long drivers are planning to extend a demonstration that brought traffic chaos to London yesterday after they were snubbed by the Government, which "refused to be held to ransom".

Hauliers threatened to blockade Channel ports and bring other cities to a standstill after they were prevented from holding talks with the Prime Minister or the Chancellor.

About 1,000 lorries blocked Park Lane in central London in protest at rises in diesel duty and road tax announced in the Budget. A delegation from Trans-action, the group behind the protest, was allowed to go to the front door of 10 Downing Street but was told no one would meet it.

Frank Stears, a Kent-based haulier who led the delegation, said: "We are fighting for our livelihoods. We are fighting for the price of diesel and road tax to come in line with Europe. We have asked if somebody will speak to us ... so we don't have to hold any more demos." He said 51,000 road haulage

iobs were on the line, as many as were under threat at Longbridge, the Rover car factory. "We are trying to keep British small firms and British drivers and their families in jobs

Noon today

By PHILIP THORNTON Transport Correspondent

the DHSS."

and prevent putting them on

Hundreds of lorries blocked the road for five hours. Drivers and their families mingled on the pavement and picnicked in nearby Hyde Park.

Services of Sheerness, Kent, said he would go out of business unless the Government backed down. "If they do not listen to us we will do it properly next time - and shut all the docks, all the motorways and all the cities. If they want us to be like the French truckers, we will."

Joe Cook, of JS Cook of Wellingborough, Northamptonshire, said there would be a blockade of the Channel ports. while Peter Starkins from Basildon, Essex. said: "We will shut London down for two weeks if necessary."

The Government said it would not be held to ransom by a "relatively small number of people". John Reid, a Transport minister, said: "I am not going to have any concessions wrung from me. I have offered the path of dialogue to the hauliers but apparently they prefer the path of dis-

BRITAIN TODAY

FORECAST

E Anglia, Midiands, Cent N & NE England: E England: Overnight rain will clear to leave it breezy but quite mild with a few sunny breaks. A moderate to fresh westerly wind. Max temp 12-14C (54-57F).

KEY



Lorry drivers heading along Park Lane to Downing Street yesterday

YESTERDAY

EXTREMES

Coldest (day): Lerwick 3C (37F)

John Voos

THE WORLD

EUROPE NOON TODAY

THE ATLANTIC NOON TODAY

be held back in fraud blitz

THE GOVERNMENT is to save filbs by delaying social security payments to new claimants in its latest attempt to root out fraud.

in a strategy document to be published today, ministers will announce that Benefits Agency staff will carry out much more rigorous checks into the background of claimants before allowing them to receive state handouts.

The controversial move could mean lengthy delays in providing help to vulnerable people with genuine claims, velfare rights groups will warn. At present, new claims take about nine days to process, but the period could now be much longer

Alistair Darling, Secretary of State for Social Security, is ap-

Political Editor

palled that two out of five requests for income support are approved without proof of claimants' entitlement - and in some cases even without their identity being checked.

He believes the current system, under which benefit offices are set targets to process claims quickly, has added to the number of bogus claims.

Mr Darling will insist that enuine claimants have nothing to fear from his tough new regime. By giving the correct payments at the outset, taxpayers will save £1bn during this Parliament, he will predict. The new rules are part of a

drive by Mr Darling to introduce a "change of culture" in the benefits system that puts the emphasis on preventing rather than detecting fraud. "In future, we will get it right and keep it right," a government source said last night. For example, the Govern-

ment will scrap the cash incentives given to local authorities to stamp out false claims for housing benefit, after evidence that the system encourages them initially to turn a blind eye to fraud. Instead, councils will be rewarded for preventing bogus claims in the first place.

Mr Darling will also order anti-fraud staff to launch more prosecutions. At present, many with a warning, but Mr Darling wants to send a message that "crime does not pay".

In a further move, the Post Office will no longer allow Giro cheques to be sent to "PO Box" addresses or redirected to a dif-... ferent address to that of the claimant. This is aimed at preventing fraudsters making multiple claims.

Mr Darling will argue that Labour inherited "a mess" from the Tories, who allowed. millions of inaccurate pay- .. ments despite their repeated pledges to crack down on fraud. Estimates of false payments range from £4bn to £7bn, and the Secretary of State will set a new target for reducing the . loss to the Exchequer. But he. will admit that his measures will take some years to deliver.

Other proposals to be announced today include greater use of "data matching" between government departments, so that information held. on individuals can be crosschecked. This is bound to raise concerns among civil liberties groups, as it abolishes the rule that information collected by the state for one purpose will not be used for another.

However, Mr Darling is confident of winning support for his new approach. "He does not believe it is right to allow people to rip off the system and the taxpayers, said one insider.

Sawoniuk: T'ml not a monster

A RETIRED railway worker told Britain's first full war crimes trial vesterday he was not a monster who had murdered Jews during the Nazi occupation of his east European homeland. "I have done no crime what-

soever. My conscience is clear. I killed no one. I would not dream of doing it. I am not a monster - I am an ordinary, working-class, poor man," said Anthony Sawoniuk, 78. He was being cross-

examined about allegations that he led search-and-kill police squads to hunt down Jews escaping Nazi massacres in Belarus during the Second World War.

Mr Sawoniuk said prosecution witnesses had come to Britain to tell lies about him on the orders of the KGB, the former Soviet Union's secret

"Everyone is telling lies. They have been told by the Russian KGB to say there was a ghetto. Everyone is telling lies. These devils came here with their lies against me."

Mr Sawoniuk added that i they did not they would probably be imprisoned for "a few ... years" on their return.

John Nutting QC, for the prosecution, pointed out that; one witness, Ben Zion Bhistein, a Jew and boyhood friend of Mr Sawoniuk, now lived in Israel where there was no KGB.

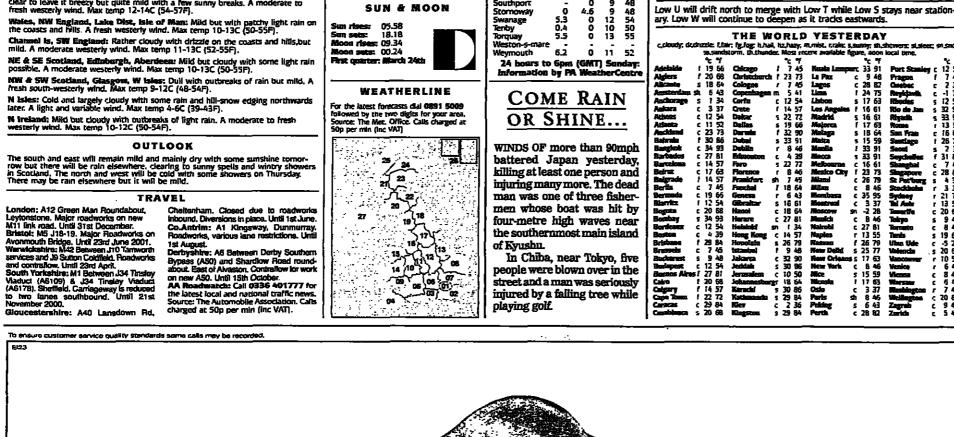
The pensioner replied: "Hele has lost his brothers and sis-fi ters, so he comes here to give evidence.

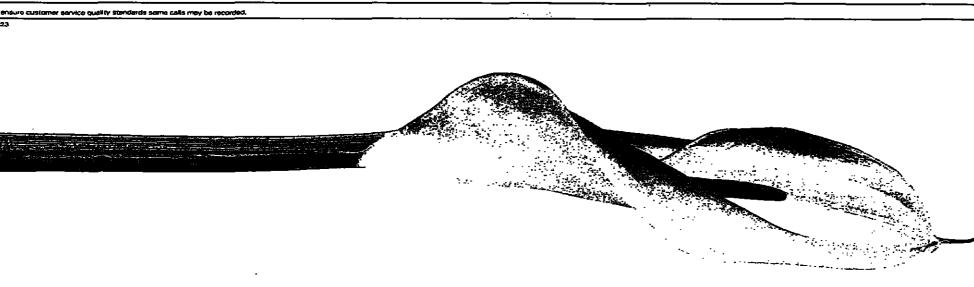
"He does not care who is :behind bars, so long as some. one suffers." Mr Sawoniuk, from south-

east London, has denied two .; charges of murdering Jewish women while serving in the police force in his home town of Domachevo during the German occupation in 1942.

He was cleared of two other charges - alleging he murdered two Jewish males - last week on direction of the judge. He had denied them.

The trial continues today.





The new 1999 Audi A4. We didn't gild the lily.

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in the name of Ulster's rough 'justice small-time tiddlers are les

"I JUST automatically thought he was dead: my legs just went beneath me," Grace Price said yesterday after her 13-year-old son had his bones fractured by paramilitary thugs. "Nobody understands what it's like to get that sort of news. I'd never wish that on any other mother because it's the most terrible feeling to get."

At just about the same time, just down the road from the Ulster hospital, the Northern Ireland Secretary, Mo Mowlam, was convening round-table talks at Stormont to tackle the political deadlock. "We face one of the most critical weeks for Northern Ireland in recent years," Ms Mowlam said. "It will need the most intensive efforts from all of us."

Back at the hospital, doctors and nurses were making intensive efforts to heal lan Price's mutilated legs, elbow and fingers after his weekend beating. As Ms Mowlam attempted to patch up the peace process, the medics tried to patch the teenager's wounds.

A shocked Mrs Price was Four men attacked him, be



DAVID MCKITTRICK

CORRESPONDENT OF THE YEAR

just cowards, that's all they are, that's not men. My son said they held a gun to his head. Anybody that holds a gun to a child's head, they're no good."

Ms Mowlam was, meanwhile, appealing: "We have ahead of us the prize of a transfer of powers. There would be the best prospects we have ever had of lasting peace, underpinned by massive international goodwill."

Back up the road, Mrs Price was saying: "I came up to the hospital and saw him lying with an oxygen mask and drips and all attached to him. I'd seen that with my mother and I couldn't says. They're not men to me, cope with it again. I was in

shock - I couldn't believe that a 13-year-old boy... people could be so evil to do that." Across and beyond the city, out at the Maze prison, Gerry

Kelly of Sinn Fein visited the jail where he spent many years to say he had met the remaining IRA prisoners to talk about decommissioning. He emerged to deliver a hardline message: "Not a single prisoner suggested that there should be any movement on decommissioning. There is some anger that what took 30 years to put

together could be brought down by David Trimble refusing to implement the agreement." At Stormont, as the talks

broke up for the day, a political source came out to say: "It was all very disappointing. The unionists and Sinn Fein just reiterated their positions, saying the same things privately as they do in public. They gave no ground at all "

At the hospital, Ian Price was facing the cameras. He only turned 13 this month and is small for age: his nickname is Buttons. He has blond hair, a smashed elbow, four broken fingers, and deep puncture wounds in his legs where nails pierced his flesh.

He was playing with other kids in the largely Protestant Co Down town of Newtownards

when four men, believed to be- ing to put a brave face on it "but nicer person." But this time it's long to a loyalist paramilitary group, appeared and systematically battered him with batons studded with nails.

Thirteen-year-old Ian Price recovering in hospital from a 'punishment' beating. He's putting a brave face on it, but he's only a child,' said his mother

As he spoke, blood seeped through the bandages from the gashes on his legs. "They started to hit me with the batons and then three of them went away. he said in his Northern Ireland monotone. "The other one, the fourth one, was still hitting me: he just kept on hitting me. They put a gun to my head and said I had 24 hours to get out of the country. They're a bunch of cowards. It took four men to beat

up a 13-year-old with batons." Mrs Price said Ian was try-

he is only a child...

"The child's hurting but he wants to be brave in front of his mates. OK, he has maybe that? Every other kid does it and they don't get batons and for the wrong person. all taken to them."

The word from Newtownards is that a loyalist group was responsible, which has carried out a number of other beatings recently. The victims of some previous punishment attacks attracted little sympathy, according to a knowledgeable source in the town: "After some beatings, I've heard it said that it couldn't happen to a in to try to clinch a deal.

different, he added, for locals are shocked at it happening to one so young. Maybe young Price had done a bit of stealing, stolen something but what's it was said, and probably this time he had stolen something

> At Stormont they are saying that the political heat will be turned up as the week progresses, with the hope that the positions of the Ulster Unionists and Sinn Fein will eventually soften. There could be prime ministerial helicopters on the lawn next weekend, with Prime Minister Tony Blair and Taoiseach Bertie Ahern flying

Mrs Price is simply concerned with her son and her family's future, and with standing up to those ordering her family out. "I'm going nowhere," she said. "I'm staying in the Glen estate, and they can try and put us all they want. They're just animals, that's what they are. God will pay them back for it, that's all I'd say. God will pay them back."

In Stormont, the politicians will be going head-to-head in a negotiation which goes beyond the purely political and which is aimed at eventually eradicating the scourge of paramilitarism that has caused so much pain to young Ian Price.



Patrick Magee: Brighton Thomas Quigley: given Patrick McLaughlin: has bomb killed five people three life sentences protested his innocence









Brighton bomber among four facing release delay

THE FOUR prisoners whose By DAVID MCKPTTRICK sentences are in question are all serving life terms. Judges part of the government and recommended that two of very nearly did. I am satisfied them, Thomas Quigley and the that you enjoy terrorism." Brighton bomber Patrick Magee, should each serve at least 35 years in prison.

In 1986 Magee, then aged 35, was given eight life sentences for his part in the Brighton hotel bombing. He was found guilty of planting the timedelay device that exploded at the Grand Hotel during the 1984 Conservative conference,

The judge told him: "You

Magee is regarded as a particular hero in republican circles in that he came close to killing Margaret Thatcher, prime minister at the time, who was at the top of the IRA's

Gerard McDonnell, then 35, was sentenced to life imprisomment after being tried with Magee. He was convicted of conspiring to cause a series of explosions at seaside resorts. When arrested in Glasgow he

Thomas Quigley received three life sentences in 1985 for the murders of two civilians and a bomb disposal expert during an IRA bombing campaign in London in the early 1980s. Those who died were Nora Field, 59, and John Breslin, 18, who were caught in a bomb blast at Chelsea barracks, and Kenneth Howorth. who was attempting to defuse

an IRA device in Oxford

was then aged 27, the judge

The fourth prisoner is alleged to have links with the Irish National Liberation

Army. Patrick McLaughlin, then 34 and from Londonderry, was given a life sentence in 1986 after being convicted of conspiring to plant an INLA bomb outside Chelsea barracks on Armistice Day, 1986. In recent years a campaign

protesting his innocence has gathered momentum. The Street. Sentencing Quigley, who came from Belfast and INLA said he was not involved in the bombing attempt and Irish newspapers have called said: "You showed not a shred for a review of the conviction.

How to recall whatsisname.

THOSE UNABLE to put a name By CHERRY NORTON to a familiar face now have a new excuse; a part of their brain may be damaged. Sci-entists have identified the area of the brain responsible for remembering and processing

today's Journal of Neurology. show that when the man had a knew, but he could not memosmall section of his brain removed to control his epileptic lits, he could no longer recall the names of his friends, his family or even the hospital Where he was staying.

Health Correspondent

carpenter, could remember common nouns, such as names of fruits, vegetables and animals, but was unable to reproper names after treating a member proper norms, such as names of famous people, The findings, published in friends and acquaintances. He not only forgot the names he

rise new names. "This shows that there may be different neural networks involved in processing proper names and common names in the brain," said Dr Reiko Fukat-

University in Sendai, Japan, and is currently a visiting scientist at Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care in Toronto.

Dr Fukatsu said the case showed that an area in the brain's front, or rostral, left temporal lobe plays a crucial role in processing proper names, but appears to have no other effect on verbal function. A portion of the man's rostral left temporal lobe was removed just been told at a drinks party.

The man's impairment, known as proper name anomia. mainly affected his ability to re-The patient, a 47-year-old su, author of the study, who trieve names from his memory.

studied the case at Tohoku He could point to the correct photo when he was given the name of an individual, and when he was shown photos of acquaintances he could provide information about them. However, he could not, in most cases, remember their name

Dr Fukatsu said the carpenter's problem was probably far removed from the problem many people experience when they forget names they have

But she insisted: "This does suggest that the tip of the left

5 Cadbury's eggs for less than £10 at Sainsbury's.



Buy any 5 Cadbury's £2.99 eggs for only £9.99.

Sainsbury's VALU

his co-pilot, Bertrand Piccard, and the Breitling support team which helped them win the last great prize in aviation. He told a press conference in Geneva, where the two men had earlier received a heroes' welcome: "It was almost as if

lestoke, Wiltshire, also praised

there was this invisible hand that was guiding us." He said that halfway across the Atlantic, as he was furiously calculating if they had enough fuel left to complete the journey, the balloon's speed mysteriously started to climb.

Choking back tears, Mr Jones said: "At that point I just pushed the calculations away and knew we didn't need them anymore, because there was something bigger than that."

The first circumnavigation of the globe in a balloon ended in Egypt on Sunday after 19



ccTONY BLAIR

feel so disillusioned with the Labour Party that the only reason I renewed my membership this year was so I could vote for you for mayor. I had already decided to write your name in if the leadership refused to put you on the list. I'm sure many others feel the same. I will be very happy to do what I can to help your campaign if you decide to go it alone.

My husband and I are both Labour Party members and believe that the apparent attempt to block your nomination as candidate is completely undemocratic. We believe that it is London Labour Party members who should choose the party's candidate.

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Dear Mr Livingstone, Please find enclosed a contribution of £30 toward your Right To Stand Campaign fund. I am a long-standing member of The Labour Party. Party, with widespread support in London, the right for your name to be on the ballot paper, for Labour's nomination of a candidate for Mayor is unequivocal. Millbank's intransigence is undemocratic and consequently highly damaging to the Labour Party.

DEAR MR LIVINGSTONE. I WROTE YOU A LETTER LAST DECEMBER AND IT SHOWED YOU ARE IN FAVOUR OF THE PENSIONERS GETTING A FAIR DEAL ON PENSIONS. BECAUSE OF THIS AND THE FACT THAT WHEN YOU RAN THE GLC LONDON WAS A BETTER PLACE I WOULD LIKE TO HELP YOU TO BECOME LORD MAYOR. (I HAVE QUITE A FOLLOWING IN THE DARBY & JOAN CLUBS IF YOU LET ME KNOW HOW I CAN HELP I WOULD BE OBLIGED).

At our meeting of the 1st February, grave concern was expressed at what is seen as a concerted attempt by the Labour party leadership to deny the London membership the democratic right to decide whether or not it wishes Ken Livingstone to stand as Labour's candidate in the forthcoming Mayoral election

This overwhelming perception held by our members, is, we believe, shared by Londoners of widely differing political persuasions, to the detriment of Labour's reputation and future electoral

Most people I know, irrespective of their politics, feel that you are the only person with the relevant experience and more particularly 'comph' to tackle what looks like a huge mass of lost causes.

am old enough to remember you as leader of the then GLC, and in the light of that would be delighted to have you as Mayor of London. Your experience, integrity and refreshing frankness, not to mention your personal charm, would I believe make you without doubt the best person to take charge of our capital city.

Though I belong to no political party, I would be willing to campaign on your behalf should you be permitted to stand, and I hope a sense of justice and common sense will prevail among the power managers of the 'New

Here's £10 to help for the ad in the Evening Standard Just what we wanted! Several times you made me very cross about things the GLC did when you were its leader But on most issues, you had the right ideas and made a lot of us (specially those who hated what Thatcher was doing I provid to be Londoners Thank you

I feel very strongly that
Ken should not be blocked for
applying to be mayor of
London: He is an honest man
and helped Londoners when
he contholled Carnty hall.
I think us Londoners should
not forget this. I am a
member of the Labour party
and will do all I can to
butther Ken's aim. I enclose further Ken's aim. I enclose my cheque for 120 and wish I could afford to send more

If you are not allowed to stand as a candidate I shall most certainly give 'New' Labour a miss not necessarily because I disapprove of their present policies, but I disapprove of their principles (or perhaps lack of them!) and their drive to centralise political control whilst paying lip service to devolution and more representative government.

Ken Livingstone wrote a letter to Tony Blair in January this year saying "If Londoners voted for me to be their elected mayor, I would work for the government, not against it". Why, as so many of the thousands of people who've written to Ken are asking, is he being denied the opportunity of carrying out Labour policy in London? Many of them are Labour Party members, many are not, but they all share misgivings about the proposed NEC vetting panel which may deprive the members of the right to decide who is Labour's candidate. The extracts we reproduce here represent the genuine voice of people genuinely concerned about London. Is anybody listening? LET THE PEOPLE DECIDE -NOT COMMITTEES!

...how can they claim they are DEMOCRATIC when they are SCRRED to let you stand, and even more scared

of the PEOPLE voting you in. Surely you should be offered a wildcard entry at least!

If you are not allowed to stand I for one will never vote LABOUR again! Unfortunately I am on Income Support but would like to send a £5 to you.

In my opinion you should be the best choice from the lobour party, as you have vast experience and in-depth knowledge of London and its needs and problems, which you so efficiently tackled when you were loyalty to the cause of selfless service could not be challenged; so carry on fighting for right and we are fully behind you.

We are a collective of 12 dance labels based in Camden. We are great fans of yours (some of us remember with great fondness the GLC days) and believe you alone have the vision to provide a fair deal for ALL Londoners.

Dear Len, Best wishes for becoming Mayor of London. You've got my vote + I think most Londoners trust you. Good PS I always vote labour.

We Croydon Labour Party Retired Members and Friends, believe that all London Members of the Labour Party should be involved in selecting Labour's Candidate for London's

We support the right of Ken Livingstone to stand for election as Mayor of London, so that the electorate can exercise their democratic rights.

KEN LIVINGSTONE'S **RIGHT TO STAND**

s advertisement will be paid for by the donation of readers. If you would like to make a donation to help pay for more ads like this, please return this coupon to Ken's Righ	t To Stand
anson Street, London W1P 7LJ. Or call the credit card hotline on 0793040 6990 or 0171 436 2701.	

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FNCLOSE A CHEQUE FOR £_	MADE PAYABLE TO 'KEN'S RIGHT TO STAND'	

OR, PLEASE DEBIT MASTERCARD/VISA/AMEX CARD NO.....

Balloonist gives thanks to 'invisible hand' 'Sin bin' units for unruly students

SPECIAL UNITS for disruptive children and new learning mentors to raise standards among under-achievers form part of the Government's campaign to improve inner-city schools.

Ministers' disclosure at the weekend that they were planning "master classes" for 100,000 bright pupils in innercity comprehensives attracted widespread criticism from teachers. Yesterday, ministers announced that an extra £350m for inner-city education over the next three years would also include help for the least able. But headteachers said they

remained unpersuaded of the Government's commitment to all inner-city children. The Con-servatives accused ministers of imposing one form of selection by ability for master classes while threatening the existence of grammar schools.

The Prime Minister and the Secretary of State for Education. David Blunkett, defended themselves against charges of élitism and attacked the "doom and gloom merchants" who argued that inner-city children could not be expected to achieve. Tony Blair told pupils and teachers at St Paul's community school in Bow, east London: "We shall be attacked from the right by people who want to return to a selective system that condemned 80 per cent of our children to failure at age 11 and from the left by people who say all children should be treated in the same way - and if they are born into poverty there's nothing you can do about it."

Eight hundred mentors, either teachers or youth workers will be appointed in 450 target schools at a cost of £17m. They will guide pupils towards extra help and tuition when they are falling behind. The first schools

Education Editor

THE INDEPENDENT

to benefit will be in London. Manchester, Liverpool, Birmingham, Leeds and Sheffield.

All secondary schools in the designated areas will also have access to a "learning unit" for disruptive pupils - one for every three schools. Some schools already have pupil referral units or "sin-bins"

Mr Blunkett said in the Commons: "We cannot allow a disruptive pupil to wreck the life chances of others. Excluded youngsters miss out on education and often turn to crime."

Extra lessons for the brightest 10 per cent of pupils will take place in new specialist schools in arts, technology, sport and languages set up under the Conservatives and backed by the Government. The number of beacon schools, which receive extra money to spread good practice, will also increase.

David Hart, general secretary of the National Association of Head Teachers, said, "the stream of initiatives on virtually a weekly basis might be good politics or even good public re-lations" but it still fell short of a desperately needed, coherent strategy for the inner-cities. David Willetts, the shadow

Secretary of State for Education, asked why selection by ability was being imposed for master classes when the Government was threatening grammar schools and abolishing other forms of selection by bility. "Are ministers seriously suggesting more able pupils should be bussed to other schools? If it is Monday, it is history in Highgate and if it's Tuesday it is maths in Merton." Deborah Orr. Review, page 5

BBC schedule signals end of ratings war

By Rhys Williams

THE BBC signalled the end of its interest in challenging ITV's ratings yesterday when it launched a spring and summer schedule that features science programmes in peak time and virtually banishes the "docu-

Instead of countering populism with populism, the corporation's director of television, Alan Yentob, played up the BBC's public service obligations, saying that range and diversity would not be sacrificed in favour of audeince share.

Speaking about ITV's phenomenally successful Who Wants To Be A Millionaire, he said: "It's a good game, but it's not our game."

He added: "The BBC has other objectives. We want to bring good drama to peak time and ensure that factual programming and news is strong. To be popular is good but it isn't good enough. The BBC needs to thicken the plot, to cross the threshold of people's lives and engage with them on new levels and in new ways."

Peak-time factual output will include Tobacco Wars, in which the presenter Michael Buerk, an ex-smoker, embarks on a personal journey through a century of smoking". Professor Robert Winston, who presented last year's acclaimed The Human Body, will feature in two science programmes, one on twins, the other on life for a newborn in the new millennium. David Attenborough narrates a Wildlife special on the tiger and BBC2 screens The Planets.



Michael Buerk: Looking at a century of smoking

There will also be a live broadcast of the solar eclipse. The docu-soap, television's

most prolific factual genre in recent years, will play a much smaller role. Maternity follows the process of childbirth from the first hospital appointment to delivery room. The Wedding is about one couple's nuptials.

Although the season will see the return of some familiar drama series (Final Witness, Roger Roger and The Ambassador), there are also several new projects. In Hope and Glory, Lenny Henry takes astraight role as a headteacher of a "named and shamed" comprehensive. The award winning maker of Holding On,Adrian Shergold, directs Eureko Street, a contemporary drama set in Belfast.

The expected highlight of the season is Tony Marchant's adaptation of Dickens' Great Expectations for BBC2.

FERGAL KEANE



To describe a war as 'brutal' and not show it, is pointless

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Doctors

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THE INDEPENDENT Turaday 23 March 1999

Paluration Editor

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Dame Shirley sat primly as court heard of her 'ruin'

BY KATHY MARKS

IF A MARTIAN who had never heard of Dame Shirley Porter had wandered into the Royal Courts of Justice in London yesterday, he could have been forgiven for concluding that she was the victim of an appalling miscarriage of justice.

He would have heard a chilling account of how Dame Shirley, the upstanding former Conservative leader of Westminster City Council, was destroyed by a deadly combination of her political opponents, a hostile media and a district auditor named John Magill

It was Mr Magili who found her guilty of "improper and disgraceful gerrymandering" in relation to the "homes for votes" scandal in Westminster and ordered her to pay a surcharge of £27m. Yesterday she asked the Appeal Court to quash his findings, arguing that he had displayed "apparent bias" against her and had snap them up. Mr Magill, apreached his verdict after an 'unreasonable delay".

The appeal is the latest round in a long saga that dates back to the Eighties, when



David Weeks, Porter's deputy at Westminster

ensconced in Downing Street and Dame Shirley, heiress to the Tesco millions, was leader of the flagship Tory council.

In 1987, Dame Shirley and David Weeks, her deputy, hatched a plan to sell off council houses in marginal Westminster wards, hoping that Conservative voters would pointed to investigate the affair in 1989, produced a scathing report in 1996 in which he accused them of "wilful misconduct". Yesterday Dame Shirley, who appealed without success

to the High Court in 1997, em barked on another attempt to clear her name. Having failed to secure the services of Lord Neill, the barrister appointed to remove corruption from public life, she engaged Lord Lester of Herne Hill QC, to put her case in the Appeal Court. She listened, eyes downcast

hands primly clasped on her lap, as Lord Lester, the venerable human rights lawyer, outlined the personal toll of the past decade. "She has suffered stress and anxiety in the course of this lengthy and dispropor tionate investigation," he told Lord Justice Kennedy, sitting with Lord Justices Schiemann and Robert Walker.

"The mud that was shing at Dame Shirley has undoubtedly stuck to her, and it has entirely marred her political and personal reputation across the country. Throughout the seven years of the investigation, her family and social life have been disrupted, she has incurred ever-mounting legal costs and has remained uncertain as to the outcome and the sanction."

Much has changed over that period, not least the political climate. Dame Shirley 68, divides



Dame Shirley Porter battles her way into the Royal Courts of Justice in London yesterday in an effort to clear her name Andrew Buurman

her time between Tel Aviv and Shirley's long-suffering hus-Palm Springs. The years have not been kind to her, her features are pinched and sag in strange places; her hair is a fiercely sculpted auburn helmet that remains immobile howev-

er much she tosses her head. Her tormenter, Mr Magill was in court yesterday, but the two exchanged not so much as a glance. His lawyers will have their turn later this week. Dame

band, Sir Leslie Porter, turned up to support her, with their two children, Linda and John.

As Lord Lester revealed that Mr Magill's "gigantic" investigation had cost more than 23m, Dame Shirley raised her mascara-laden eyes heavenwards, a gesture of Thatcherite disapproval at so much money wasted on something so trivial. Lord Lester argued that she had not received a fair hearing at the High Court, where, he said, the principle of presumpion of innocence had been

He condemned the "grossly unfair" way in which Mr Magill announced his provisional reading out a floridly worded statement that conveyed "an aura of guilty wrongdoing" and cast her as "an unscrupulous political ringleader" He also sent what he called

"a note" to her political opponents; the note ran to 235 pages and was accompanied by 13 appendices, including a 350-page history, plus 14 lever-arch files containing more than 10,000 pages of documents. This led, as became clear from reports in newspapers the following day, to a "well-organised, de-

liberate and targeted leaking".

The appeal is expected to last a week and judgment will be reserved. If Dame Shirles loses again, she intends to take her case to the House of Lords A family friend, Roger Rosewell, said outside court: "She has said all along that she will tight it all the way. She is determined to prove her innocence and clear her name. Losing does not enter into her vocabulary."

Doctors attack race for millennium baby

lennium baby is certain to end in tears, doctors warned yes terday. Most mothers will fail to deliver at the appointed time, and the lives of their babies could be threatened if materously overstretched.

More than nine out of ten couples trying to time the arrival of their babies to coincide with the dawn of the new millennium will be disappointed, obstetricians said. Only one in three will conceive in the next month, and of those only 4 per cent will give birth naturally on the "expected delivery date".

The expected boom in the number of couples trying to conceive over the next few a national shortage of midweeks will impose a heavy burden on the maternity services at the turn of the year. The Royal College of Obstetricians said it expected staffing arrangements to be as for any weekend or public holiday, geared to emergencies only.

labour are slightly higher at crease in births will increase

THE RACE to conceive a mil- By JEREMY LAURANCE Health Editor

> [these times]", the college said. It added that parents should be dissuaded from requesting induction or a Caesarean to meet college would consider this highly undesirable unless there were medical indications."

Professor James Drife, vicepresident, said: "I am very concerned that pregnancy is being treated as a game. A baby is for life not just for the millernium."

The Hospital Consultants and Specialists Association said the NHS was barely able to cope with the current average of 2,200 births a day because of wives. "A severe bulge in this number will render the service in a state of collapse," it said.

Dr Robin Loveday, consultant obstetric anaesthetist at Pembury Hospital, near Tunbridge Wells, Kent, said: "Our hospital has 3,000 births a year, There are concerns that which works out at an average the risks of complications in of eight a day. A sustained in-

BY IAN BURRELL

Home Affairs Correspondent

cember 1988. All three were

given life sentences in 1990.

The jury decided they had

carried out a series of robber-

ies in Surrey in which house-

holders and motorists were

tied up and beaten, and the

murder of Peter Hurburgh, a

hairdresser, who was stripped,

gang had struck a deal with po-

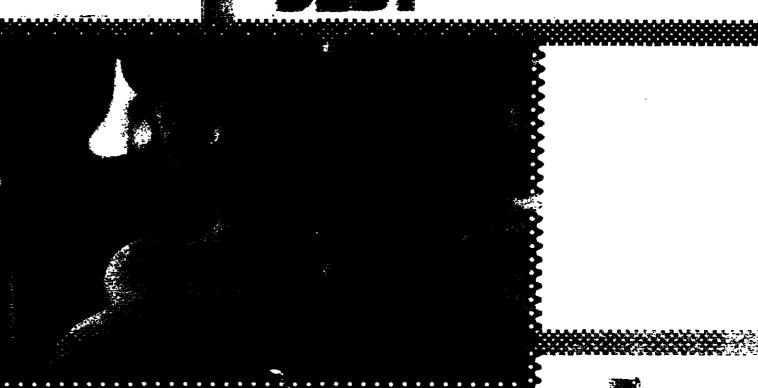
lice to avoid prosecution.

His attackers stole £10.

hazards - for instance because you can't get a sick or premature baby into the special care baby unit. If other neighbouring hospitals have peaks at the same time you are in trouble as you can't transfer patients. The a handicapped baby as a result of the overload on services."

The British Medical Association said the problem of staff shortages could be solved if the number of consultant posts in obstetrics and gynaecology was expanded to take the 400 obstetricians in training who will otherwise face redundancy over the next few years. It issued a warning last week about the impending waste of highly trained specialists, who will either have to retrain or seek work abroad. "We have a ready-made solution to this baby boom if the Government will grasp it," said a

She added, however, that if any couple planning a millennium baby remained uncertain about the wisdom of trying. "there is still time to change



M25 gang had Watchdog 'unfair' trial

THE EUROPEAN Commission of Human Rights has ruled that three men serving life sentences for a murder and a series of brutal robberies around the M25 were denied a fair

The ruling, which means that the case of the so-called M25 Three will now go before the European Court of Human Rights, is the second time this month that the commission has challenged the findings of the British courts.

Last week it ruled that Jon Venables and Robert Thompson, the two boys convicted of murdering the Liverpool toddier James Bulger in 1993, had not been given a fair trial.

Yesterday it reported that the Court of Appeal's decision to allow the use of Public Interest Immunity certificates in the M25 case had prevented equality of arms" between prosecution and defence. The certificates ensured that certain documents were withheld from

the defence. Raphael Rowe, Michael Davis and Randolph Johnson Were convicted of taking part in a brutal crime spree on 15 De-

suspends **Kurd TV**

BY PAUL MCCANN Media Editor

A KURDISH satellite TV station was ordered off the air by watchdogs yesterday for broadcasting calls to carry out acts of violence in Turkey.

British-based Med TV has transmitted entertainment and information services for ethnic Kurdish communities across Europe since 1995.

battered, then doused in petrol. In the first action of its kind, the Independent Television But the men have always protested their imocence. Vic-Commission suspended its licence for 21 days with immetims suggested the gang consisted of two white men and one diate effect for carrying programmes "likely to encourblack, although all three men age or to incite crime or to lead convicted were black. The to disorder". cases of Rowe and Davis are

The station has already been currently before the Criminal fined £90,000 and received two Cases Review Commission. The two men maintain that formal warnings for breaching evidence against them was proimpartiality and incitement sections of the programme code. vided by a gang who were Last November it was given themselves more likely to have been responsible for the atsix months to ensure its service tacks. They claimed that the

met legal requirements. But the ITC decided Med TV had continued to broadcast in-Yesterday's ruling by the Strasbourg-based commission flammatory material, especially after the arrest of the Kurdish was based on a general criticseparatist leader Abdullah ism of the use of PII certificates.

AND START TO

We've a once in a millennium opportunity to make an historic gesture. We're calling for a one-off cancellation of the unpayable debts of the Third World. So that the money spent on repayment can be used to help eradicate poverty. It's a chance to break this vicious chain of debt.

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A wind farm at Penryoldlan and Llidiartywaen, Powys. Wind energy producers urge Labour to show courage and back the industry John Voos

Labour rows back on wind power pledge

THE GOVERNMENT has been accused of ditching its manifesto commitment to boost wind and solar energy after it emerged that the policy had become mired in a Whitehall "turf

Environmentalists warned yesterday that Britain could he denied 30,000 new jobs and jeopardise efforts to cut greenhouse gases if ministers backed away from the pledge to generate 10 per cent of all electricity from renewable sources.

Both in opposition and soon after the election. Labour vowed to out "clean and green" energy sources such as wind farms and wave and solar power at the heart of electricity generation.

Political Correspondent

However, The Independent has learnt that conflicts between the Department of Trade and Industry (DTD), the Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions (DETR) and the Treasury have stymied progress on the issue.

To pacify the different departments, the DTI has taken the unusual step of producing two versions of its long-awaited consultation paper on pollutionfree energy, one that includes a strong commitment to the 10 per cent target and one that does not. The paper which has already been delayed by 22 months, was due out this Thursday but now will not be published

until next month at the earliest. It is understood that while John Battle, the Energy minister, is pushing for the target, other ministers and civil servants in the DETR and the Treasury want to water down the pledge. Mr Battle's opponents claim that the 10 per cent figure would mean high levies on business and consumers.

John Prescott, Secretary of State in the department, has already blocked several planning applications for wind farms and s believed to have made his objections - largely relating to the impact on the landscape - clear to the DTL But if the target is dropped, Mr Battle faces severe embarrassment as he has re- It's the worst of all worlds."

and strong drive to develop renewable energy".

If the Government did commit itself to a target, it would then be able to place regular orders with the renewable energy industry, providing companies with the stability they claim they need to invest. Green groups claim that the contracts to build wind and wave turbines could breathe life back into Britain's traditional precision engineering base.

Nick Goodall, chief executive of the British Wind Energy Association, said the prospect of the Government backing away from the 10 per cent target was "plain scary. We've got to get it right now or we'll be the poor man of Europe with a laughably small renewables industry. The irony is we can supply all the pollution-free electricity they want if only they'd show a bit more courage," he said.

peace, said that the delays would send a signal to investors that Britain was not the place to come to develop world-beating technology. "The DTI is supposed to be the champion of British industry but this would mean selling our firms down the river... If this is a turf war be tween departments, then it is appalling... Jobs will be lost while mental future will be forfeited.

Porn reprimand for councillors

LABOUR'S 10,400 local council- By ANDREW GRICE lors are being warned not to misuse their personal computers after incidents of accessing pornographic material.

The party's ruling National Executive Committee (NEC) is expected to decide today to lift suspensions but reprimand two members of Shropshire County Council after a police investigation into porn on the Internet Four Shropshire councillors were charged under the Crown Prosecution Service later dropped the charges.

A confidential report into the Shropshire affair, obtained by The Independent, reveals the Labour's inquiry panel found that Peter Taylor and Derek Woodvine were "not impressive" as witnesses and were "less than frank with their answers."

Political Editor

Councillor Taylor "admitted drawing down images" at home using a council modem but insisted he paid the phone cost. He strenuously denied access ing images connected with

hard porn or paedophilia. Councillor Woodvine told the Labour inquiry the police had been waiting for an opportunity to "stitch him up" after he murder case.

Both councillors blamed the problems which provoked the police investigation on two other councillors who subsequently left the Labour Party.

The panel proposed that Clir Taylor be warned about his future conduct and Clir Woodvine be reminded of his duty to protect the party's good name.



Teenagers die in suicide pact

POLICE LAUNCHED an investigation after two teenagers apparently took their own lives in a suicide pact, it was confirmed yesterday. The bodies of Leanne Elbeck, 16, and Damien Kilburn, 19, both of Wakefield, West Yorkshire, were found in a firme-filled car on Friday,

Bristol surgeon 'saint' and 'sinner'

A MOTHER yesterday praised one of the heart surgeons at the centre of the Bristol baby deaths inquiry, Janardan Dhasmana, for working skilfully to save her son's life. But another mother, whose child suffered brain damage after surgery, said the surgeon had misled her about the risks.

Record fine for train derailment

BALFOUR BEATTY was fined 2500,000 at Chelmsford Crown Court after a train derailment - a record financial penalty for a railway accident. Its rail arm admitted a health and safety breach at Rivenham, Essex, in 1997.

Harassment case driver stopped

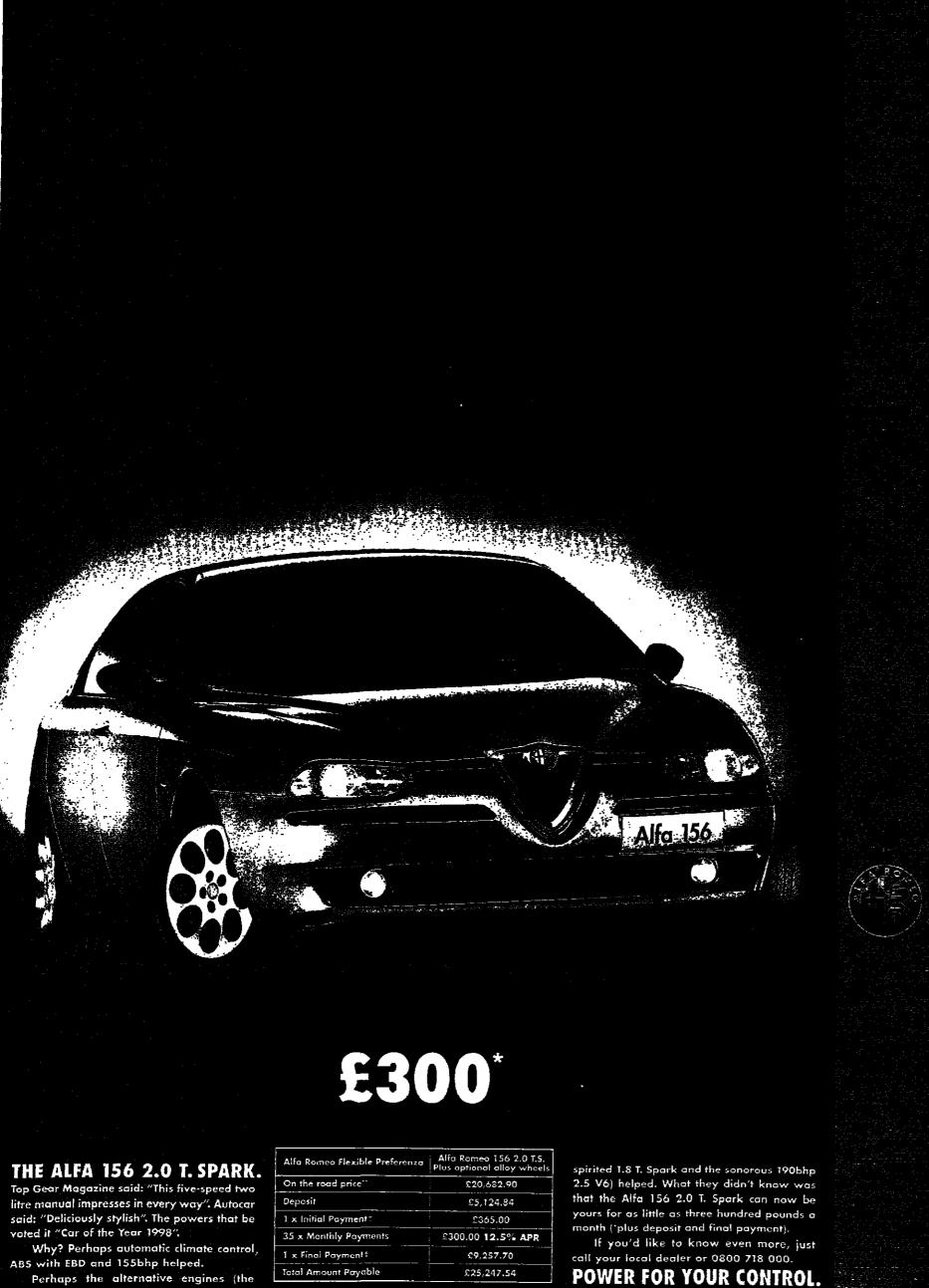
A BLACK motorist. Carl Josephs, who lost a harassment case against West Midlands Police earlier this year after claiming he was stopped 34 times in two years, alleges he has been pulled over three times since.

'Pay up' says quiz show man

ANDREW LAVELLE, who won £16,000 on the ITV quiz show Who Wants To Be A Millionaire but was stripped of the cash for having £682 in debts has paid his fines to a court. He says the show should now give him the money.



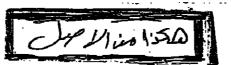
FREE 0800 484 184 quoting reference ID3916 Our lines are open 8.30am to 7pm weekdays, and 9am to 1pm Saturdays.





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for no discernible reason except to have a good time

This year's Oscars delivered everything they were supposed to, an orgy of glamour and glorious meaninglessness that set out to be as much of an entertainment as any of the films it honoured. There were -tears, laughter, and even a final upset as the favourite for Best Picture, the war drama Saving Private Ryan, was squeezed out at the last moment

After a publicity battle of rare passion between Mira-max makers of Shokespeare in Love, and DreamWorks, the .company behind Ryan (Whoopi Goldberg, the evening's presenter described it as "fighting World War Three over World War Two"), it turned out to be Shakespeare's year, with seven awards including Best Picture, Best Actress (Gwyneth Paltrow), Best Supporting Actress (Judi Dench) and Best Original Screenplay (Marc Norman and Tom Stoppard).

But there was really something for everybody, or almost a directing award for Steven Spielberg for Saving Private Ryan, a surprise Best Actor Oscar for Benigni that seemed to owe more to his charmingly outrageous appearances on US talk shows than to his performance in Life is Becutiful, a nod to the stunningly acted drama Affliction in the form of a Best Supporting Actor gong for James Coburn, and another nod to Gods and Monsters, the small independent film starring Ian McKellen and Lynn Redgrave whose director, Bill Condon, won for best adapted screenplay.

Condon took the award as a rare piece of Hollywood indul-

The biggest losers were perhans the British films Elizabeth and Hillory and Jackie – Cate Blanchett losing out to Dame Judi for the Best Queen Bess award, and Emily Watson and Rachel Griffiths falling victim to the prevailing Shakespeare

Hovering over the proceed-



Dame Judi Dench: Best Supporting Actress

ings was a sense of cringeing embarrassment at the Academy's decision to bestow a Lifetime Achievement Award on Clia Kazan, the veteran director of A Streetcar Named Desire, East of Eden and On The Waterfront, whose considerable professional achievements were overshadowed by his decision to shop eight of his friends to the House Un-american Activities Committee at the height of the McCarthyite anti-Communist witchhunt in 1952. After weeks of passionate de-

bate about the merits of the award, hundreds of protesters, both pro and anti, turned up gence towards gay themes - the with banners outside the film recounts the last days of Dorothy Chandler Pavilion in James Whale, the gay British downtown Los Angeles where

those who pointedly refused to applaud him.

"It was a touch of real drama, to watch the spreading embarrassment through 2,000 people," another Oscar nominee. Sir Ian McKellen, said afterwards. There was real confusion in the house "

Senior Academy members have admitted they would never have honoured Kazan if they had realised what passions the decision would unleash. The 89-year-old director all but squirmed as he hurriedly thanked the Academy for its

"courage and generosity". There was more embarrassment when Monica Lewinsky appeared at the post-Oscar Vanity Fair bash in Morton's restaurant in West Hollywood.

In a year of presidential scandal, Hollywood wore its support for President Clinton very much on its sleeve, with jokes flying at the expense of Lewinsky, Linda Tripp, Trent Lott and Kenneth Starr.

"Fifty million dollars down the drain," Whoopi Goldberg said of Starr's investigation. "For that kind of money we could've made five good

Lewinsky, accompanied by her current boyfriend, movie industry executive Jonathan Marshall, was laughed at, looked upon as a bit of a freak and, in some cases, roundly

"I'm not with her;" said an adamant Bridget Fonda. "We staggered our arrivals so we wouldn't come in together." Jay Leno, the popular evening talk-show host, remarked: "She was under Table 14. I believe."

Howard Jacobson. Review front; Leading article,



Review, page 3 Actor-director Roberto Benigui dances for joy over the seats after winning an Oscar for 'Life is Beautiful' AP

THE WINNERS

Best Picture: Shakespeare in Gigbotti, Harvey Weinstein, Edward Zwick and Mary Norman Actor: Roberto Benigni, Life Is

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Coburn Aithction supporting actress: Judi Dench, Shukespeare in Leve Foreign film: Life is Bengtitui

Screenplay (written directly for the screen): Murc Norman, Iom Stoppard. Shakespeare in Love Screenplay (based on produced or published): Bill Condon, Gals and Monsters Art direction: Shakasnoate in Jove, Marcia Childs part direction) and for Quernet (see

decoration Cinematography: 5.77 m.7 Private Ryan, Linux Nacional Sound: Salana Production (C. 22) Gary Rydsgrotti, Gary Saltimus Andy Nelson, Retuid Judkins Sound effects editing: Rydstrom and Richard Hymns Original musical or comedy Stephen Warbeck Original dramatic score: ()

s Beautiful, Nicela Pinyani Original song: When You Believe from the Prince of Egypt, Stephen Schwartz Costume: Shikespeare in Love, Sundy Powell Documentary feature: Ih: Last Days, James Moli, Ken Libory Documentary (short subject): The Personals Improvisations on Remarke in

the Golden Years, Keike Ibe Film editing: Saving Private Ryan, Michael Kaha Make-up; Ehzabeth, lenny Shircore Animated short film: Sum Chris Wedge

Live action short film: Election Night (Valgatten), kim Magnussun and Anders Thomas Jensen Visual effects: What Dreams May Come, Joel Hynek. Nicholas Brooks, Stuart Robertson and Kevin Mack Scientific and technical award: Avid Technology Inc Thatberg award: Producer-director Norman F Jewison

A car without Bosch

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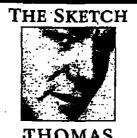
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SUPPLY DE

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QUESTION: IF, as the Chancellor which would presumably mean the government had promised to said in his budget statement rethat, were I at school, I would not modernise the comprehensive princently our children are 20 per cent be plucked from the class to be ciple and yesterday he explained given extra lessons in calculus. that this consisted of smuggling a On the other hand I might be miniaturised grammar school in deemed to be so disadvantaged that through the back door of selected I qualified for special needs teachinner-city comprehensives.

> Being a bit of a slow-streamer when it comes to education policy I couldn't immediately understand how this programme of turboboosting certain schools was to be carried out - it seemed to involve a complicated set of overlapping zones and frameworks that took me back to the dizzying enigmas of the Venn diagram. But one thing was clear - gifted pupils were to be



Calculus, confusion and the question of elastic children

quite a lot, confident that childstretching was one of those projects that no one could decently oppose.

What was less transparent was brow, to ask how the one school in fact, was wealthy parents who lived how the elasticity of the child was his area that taught Latin could supto be established without testing. Obviously no one would want the wrong kind of child to be picked out and an unpleasant snapping inci-

Tory MPs couldn't work out either how selection both would and would not be part of the system. Even Labour MPs seemed loyally confused, in truth, After David Willetts had asked for an assurance that bright children wouldn't be bused about to get their specialist treatment, and after Mr Blunkett had scornfully delivered it. Eddie O'Hara stood up, furrow on his

ply it to every eager pupil in Knowsley. Dennis Skinner then conjugated the verb amo, to love proving unruly elements could be returned to the mainstream with the help of sympathetic mentoring.

Mr Blunkett seemed cheered by this but then he was in celebratory mood anyway - he celebrated particular schools, he celebrated diversity, he celebrated the weekend schools set up by many black parents. He even "rejoiced" in a supportive inquiry from Michael Colvin, the Conservative member for Romsey. The only thing he execrated, in emerging with unexpected vigour in response to a question from John Wilkinson. It was as if the Minister had meant only to clear his throat but accidentally let rip a beich of Old Labour class hatred. Julie Kirkbride, wearing a skirt that would have got her sent home

by any self-respecting girls' school, responded with similar stridency inviting him to support the principle of grammar school selection. Mr Blunkett wouldn't - he knows grammar schools have to be ground up very small if Labour MPs are to swallow them without choking.

Government blamed for local tax rises

THE GOVERNMENT came und-Th er fierce attack yesterday for forcing "massive hidden tax hikes" after it emerged that council taxes in England will

rise by an average 6.8 per cent. The Liberal Democrats claimed that cuts in local government spending on health and education meant that councils had to increase their taxes from next month.

But Hilary Armstrong, the Local Government minister. accused the party of trying to Sw shift blame from their councils to central government.

"Much of local government has moved on from the old pol-Ad itics of spend and blame and it : seems the Liberals have not. They have become apologists for the old-style, municipal tax and spend - high taxation, low efficiency," she insisted.

She noted that the Standard Spending Assessments (SSAs), the amounts the Government believes councils need to spend to provide services, had increased by 2.6 per cent. The Government had also ended "crude and universal" council

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BY SARAH SCHAEFER Political Reporter

Whitehall sources have disclosed that the average rise will be 6.4 per cent in London, 5.3 per cent in the metropolitan authorities, 5.9 per cent in unitary councils and 7.9 per cent in shire counties.

The Liberal Democrats are likely to use the increase as ammunition for their campaign for the local elections in June.

Opening the Liberal Democrat-led Commons debate. Paul Burstow said the local government settlement amounted to a "massive backdoor increase in taxation". "As the Government with-

draws support from local spending, the council tax payer has to pay more. Labour exposed this as a scandal under the Tories and yet they continue to tral government. adopt exactly the same policy."

Mr Burstow said it was not a question of what local authorities decided to spend "because over 75 per cent of what they get to spend" was dictated by central government.

Accusing ministers of peddling "fantasy figures", Mr Burstow said the gap between what councils were spendingand what the Government was funding was growing year by year and now stood at £2.3bn.

The Government predicted when it set spending levels for the coming financial year that if authorities kept to their SSAs, council tax bills would rise by an average 4.5 per cent.

Mrs Armstrong stressed that 124 of England's 358 councils had set their council tax at or below their SSA increase for the coming year, and many of the others had gone only slight-

Ministers are considering whether those councils spending above the guidelines should have to help pay for council tax benefit paid to poorer people. which is currently met by cen-Whitehall sources said

Labour councils had a lower than average council tax risethe 6.8 per cent national average - and Tory councils higher than average, at 7.6 per cent.



Tony Blair (right) and Peter Mandelson, former trade and industry minister, at the Theatre Royal in central London yesterday as the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children launched its 20-year campaign to put a 'full stop' to child abuse

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It's time to put a BIG name 'Cynical' Monsanto branded public enemy number one

MONSANTO, the firm at the centre of the controversy over genetically modified food, is 'public enemy number one", a Liberal Democrat MP told the

House of Commons last night. Norman Baker, MP for Lewes, said the US-based multinational had shown a lack of concern for the environment and for public opinion.

In a debate on the World Trade Organisation, Mr Baker said the firm's activities must be curtailed. "Monsanto are public enemy number one. They insist on thwarting consumer choice, bulldozing elected governments and forcing been hired to question farmers

QUESTIONS

AND

ANSWERS

THE PROMISED report on

arms exports, due to be

published last year, will

be out "soon", Defence

Secretary, George Robertson, insisted.

Church has

£3.5bn assets

THE CHURCH of England

has assets worth £3.5bn,

Stuart Bell, the Labour

MP for Middlesbrough

who speaks on behalf

of the Church

disclosed.

Commissioners,

First-class

travel costs

NORTHERN IRELAND

ministers and officials

spent almost £60,000

on first-class air travel

were made to the United

during 1998. All but

one of their flights

States, Northern

Ireland Secretary,

Mo Mowlam, revealed.

Arms exports

report 'soon'

FOOD FRAN ABRAMS

Westminster Correspondent their wretched products on the world's population. They need

tic control urgently. Monsanto could well be the bad news story of the 21st century if they are not stopped."

Mr Baker attacked the company for its "intimidating" tactics against farmers, including the use of private investigators to ensure they were meeting its contractual requirements. One firm of US investigators had land. Mr Baker said.

to be brought within democra-

and take samples from their led to an injunction being grant-The US government was act-

ing on behalf of Monsanto when it warned it would file for damages if the European Union continued to ban the firm's treated milk, he added. Farms in the US that attempted to label untreated milk were threatened with legal action.

In one of its most "cynical" moves to date, the firm had persuaded politicians and leaders in Africa that its technologies were a way to combat starvation. In India, some GM crops were grown without the farm-ers' knowledge until complaints

ed by the supreme court. Plans to grow GM soya in Brazil this year would substantially reduce world supplies of conventional soya, Mr Baker added.

In Britain, Monsanto had launched a £1m advertising campaign that had made claims later condemned by the Advertising Standards Authority as "wrong ... unproven, misleading and confusing".

Mr Baker also listed a number of examples to support his claim that company executives seemed to be in a "revolving door" to and from official government positions.

Straw 'regrets' **Immigration** Service chaos

JACKSTRAW told MPs yesterday he "greatly regretted" the chaos in the Immigration Service, which he said represented the preatest management challenge faced by the Home Office.

"I greatly regret the fact that the service has deteriorated as much as it has," the Home Secretary said before MPs on the Commons Special Standing Committee.

Mr Straw, who will today visit immigration headquarters in Croydon, south London, explained to MPs that the move of the headquarters from Lunar House to new offices near by had created major problems for staff, and said that an arrangement with the private company Siemens in 1996 to install a

new computer system was "well behind schedule". The Home Secretary's visit ed on account of their race or nawill coincide with a report by the tionality. "Selectivity in National Audit Office into im- immigration control amounts National Audit Office into im-

migration headquarters, which to stereotyping and little else... is expected to be highly critical. This is precisely the kind of in-However, Mr Straw said he did not think the chaos was suffi-fined by the Macpherson

ciently worrying to reduce the report."

ASYLUM BILL BY IAN BURRELL Home Affairs Correspondent

target set in the Asylum Bill for dealing with future applications within six months. He also defended the proposals for denying asylum seekers cash benefits and instead giving them benefits in kind. He said the costs of such a system were justified by the number of non-genuine appli-cants who would be deterred by

the lack of cash incentives. Earlier, immigration officials had told the committee that the use of "intelligence-led passenger profiling" was bringing about a culture of institutional racism. John Tincey, information di-

rector of the immigration Service Union, said passengers were increasingly being targetstitutionalised racism as deTHE HOUSE



Nuclear arms

George Robertson, Secretary of State for Defence, pointed to the strength of Labour's conversion to retaining nuclear weapons when he said he was told by an ordinary party member that Britain should have more missiles, not fewer. Labour Party members. now valued the "insurance" nuclear weapons provided, he said.

Today's agenda

Commons: 2.30pm Scottish and Lord Chancellor's Department questions Local Government Bill. Debate on millennium bug and European defence. Lords: 2.30pm Youth Justice and Criminal Evidence Bill. Disability Rights Commission Bill Railways (Rateable Values) (Amendment)

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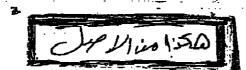
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Nuclear arms المؤك بشيرية

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More control sought on herbal cures

STRICTER CONTROLS should BY STEVE CONNOR be imposed over the sale of herbal remedies because of the dangers of possible side-effects. according to scientists involved in studying the potential benefits of traditional medicines.

Many herbal remedies are sold as food supplements, enabling manufacturers to bypass the regulations imposed on licensed plant products.

The Government is under ressure from the European Union to tighten the sale of such remedies and the Department of Health has asked the Medicines Control Agency to review new control measures.

Baroness Hayman, a Health minister yesterday announced a period of consultation before the Government took action. The present regulatory arrangements have some limitations," she said

There is a sharp contrast between the rigorous requirements to demonstrate safety, quality and efficacy which apply to licensed herbal medicines, and the limited regulatory requirements which apply to unlicensed herbal medicines."

head of complementary medicine at Exeter University, told such as lead, mercury and cada scientific meeting in London that there was little excuse for treating herbal remedies any differently from other medicines with proven benefits.

There has been nearly a four-

Science Editor

fold increase in herbal treatments in the US since 1990 and although no similar figures are available in Britain, Professor Ernst said that anecdotal evidence suggests traditional medicine is experiencing a similar increase in popularity.

Professor Ernst said existing controls were not enough. "The present situation is unsatisfactory because it doesn't guarantee that the consumer is protected. There are certain side-effects from herbal remedies and a lack of control invites all sorts of cowboy behaviour."

The World Health Organisa tion has registered about 9,000 cases of side-effects caused by people taking herbal remedies, mostly caused by allergic reactions or the effects of contamination and adulteration

Bart Halkes, an expert in herbal remedies at the University of Utrecht, said many traditional medicines are inherently impure products.

"Contaminants most likely t Professor Edzard Ernst, be found in crude medicinal herbs include heavy metals mium, pesticides or herbicides, microrganisms and also microbiological toxins, such as afflotoxin, and radioactive isotopes," Dr Halkes said.

Deliberate adulteration, due

Lawrence father backs campaign

THE FATHER of the murdered By IAN BURRELL black teenager Stephen Lawrence has given his backing to a campaign to bring to justice the killers of a Sikh

Family Justice Campaign, that the case bore striking similarities to that of his own son,

Surjit Singh Chhokar, 32, who had two children, was stabbed in Overtown, Strathclyde, last November A man was acquitted of Mr Chhokar's murder but convicted of assault earlier this mouth at the High Court in Glasgow. He lodged a special defence, blaming two other men for the killing. Those

Home Affairs Correspondent

two men appeared at Hamilton Sheriff Court on separate dates waiter who was stabbed to in November charged with death in Scotland last year. murder. The charges have not Neville Lawrence said, in a been officially dropped, but the

> Stephen's killers have never been brought to justice after he was murdered in London in 1993. Mr Lawrence said: "The inquiry into the police investigation in my son's murder doubt that the treatment this family has received from the police ... is a sharp reflection of that meted out to my family."

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to ease problems with IS THERE blood system. Clinical **EVIDENCE** trials in Germany and US, good as some mild IT WORKS!

Hardly any, Occasional ARE THERE allergy problems. May SIDE react with blood-thinning EFFECTS? drugs used on patients with heart disease

WHERE IS

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WHAT IS IT

to either incompetence or ig-

norance, is also a problem, he

said. "Adverse reactions may

also be due to the use of

concentrates or specifically

processed extracts of plants

which are know to affect the up-

take of other drugs in the body."

studies the effects of herbal

remedies at the University of

London, said there was no such

thing as an effective medicine

that did not have side-effects.

troi over.unlicensed herbal med-

icines. The trouble is that people

are selling any old rubbish as a

The aromatherapy debate,

Health, Review, page 11

food supplement," she said.

"There should be more con-

Elizabeth Williamson, who

the world. The leaves are Seas islands, notably Fiji

Used traditionally as a recreational drink because of its relaxing properties. A known psycho-active drug, it is currently being studied as a possible anti-depressive

Good anecdotal evidence At least 10 clinical trials indicate that it is better than a placebo and as indicate a positive effect tranquillisers at calming

in averting the symptoms anxiety symptoms of Alzheimer's disease probably not to be used

Root of the peoper plant. Small flowering plant from North America. Any Grows in hot, dry part may be used, but mostly the roots

> Supposed to be a general conic. Said to boost the immune system by stimulating the white blood cells. Could help to prevent colds and simple intections

anecdotal and controversial. Some trials Clinical trials show an show it works, others indicate it has no effect. The jury's out

Mild stomach upsets, and Gastro-intestinal upsets; Virtually none. A potential Mild stomach upsets, and quite dramatic allergic reactions reported in some people

Grows just about A cactus-like plant.

climate, such as Britaia's. climates. Used by native Shrub with yellow flowers Americans Supposed to help mild or Supposed to help alleviate the symptoms of benign prostate problems in men, who

moderate depression Traditionally used as a tonic, and a treatment for mood disorders. Unclear have difficulty urinating. what the active Scientists are still trying to work out how it works ingredients may be

everywhere in mild, damp

No question that it works, say the experts. unequivocal benefit to men with prostate disorders

About 20 trials conducted that indicate there is: good reason to believe there is something to the anecdotal reports

winner, according to some a theoretical risk of takin problems when expect

to sunlight



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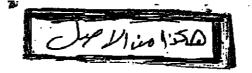
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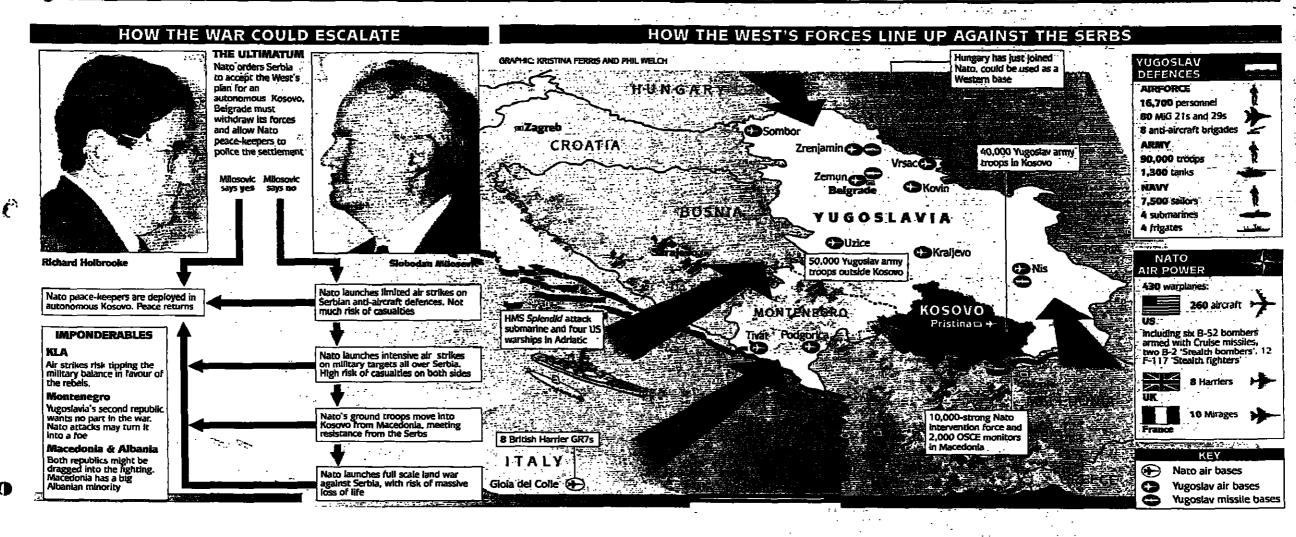
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Will Kosovo be Europe's Vietnam?

WITH THE withdrawal of the BY RUPERT CORNWELL international monitors from Kosovo, Nato has burnt its last bridge of credibility. To have done so – and then not raise a finger as Slobodan Milosevic wreaked his vengeance on the Albanians – would rank with Munich 1938 or Budapest 1956 as a Western betrayal. So unless the Yugoslav President, in his meetings with the US special envoy, stares into the whites of Richard Holbrooke's eyes and blinks, we have to assume air strikes will go ahead - within three days at most.

What happens next even the most bemedalled television studio strategist will hesitate to guess. In terms of military capability, national will and possible unintended consequences, few recent conflicts are so hard to read. Few are so short of obvious parallels. Generals, proverbially, are always tempted to refight the last war. But in the case of Kosovo, which war?

said, is not Vietnam. For whereas Vietnam was populated by Vietnamese, less than 10 per cent of Kosovo's 2 million inhabitants are Serb. And unlike Hanoi, Belgrade has shown no stomach to endure aerial bombardment "for a generation" to secure its goals. But then again, Kosovo and Serbia are not Iraq -a bare, flat land where targets are hard to hide and the enemy's capacity for selfdefence (pace the apocalyptic warnings of Tony Blair and George Robertson, the Secretary of State for Defence) is

In terms of terrain, this looming Baikan war will be like Balkan wars before it, fought across hills, forests and scattered population centres. For Andrew Brooks of the International Institute for Strategic Studies, it is in some ways "a big Switzerland. The forces are dispersed, they've dug a lot of holes in mountains, there's

a tradition of fighting for soil, they can't be taken out in one fell swoop".

This is the tough-as-nails Serbia of legend, which President Milosevic does nothing to discourage. Nato has crushing air superiority, more than 400 top-of-the-line Western aircraft, against 80 Soviet-built planes, mostly ageing MiG-21s. However, "while you can destroy air defence centres", says Mr Brooks, "Belgrade has mobile radar units, and a lot of people with surface-to-air missiles". Then there is the matter of

targets. It is assumed that in a first phase, Nato will go for communications and air defence sites and swiftly thereafter ammunition depots. But eight years ago, an even larger onslaught failed to knock out may of Iraq's scud missile units. And if Yugoslav armour on the ground is directly targeted, the lesson of Chechnya and similar conflicts is that infantry and artillery dispersed in rough coun-



Milosevic: Will he back down as he did over Bosnia?

Assuming, of course, they have

For some believe that a replay of Bosnia 1995 awaits. For all the bravado now, a little serious bombing four years ago and Mr Milosevic weat meekly to Dayton, where a peace was try can stand up to a massive reached. But will the Serbs

crack so easily this time? Bosnia, after all, was a sovereign independent state. Kosovo is, legally, a part of the republic of Serbia. Will it really be surrendered so easily?

And Nato is operating under constraints its opponents need not observe. Presumably special force operatives are already among the men on the ground, able to pinpoint targets for the attacking aircraft. Even so. Nato governments will insist their pilots hit the right targets with the smallest possible "collateral damage" - the unintended killing of innocent civilians - and débacles such as last summer's destruction of the pharmaceuticals factory in

Analysts say Belgrade may already have shifted ammunition depots into urban areas. making cruise missiles harder to use. Pinpoint bombs are still best launched from planes with human beings at the controls. If so, many experts predict, Nato losses will be mevitable,

with uncertain political consequences back home.

Small wonder Nato leaders pray that a small dose of bornbing does the trick - that Mr osevic then convinces hardliners that he has done all he can, and that the Kosovo game is up. But suppose it doesn't. Suppose rather that this most cynical of politicians, whose overriding goal is survival, calculates that any surrender spells his own political (conceivably even physical) demise.

So he fights on. His air defences bring down allied aircraft, perhaps with the loss of their pilots. At this point, Nato will have lost control of events. The tidal logic of war takes over. The air strikes are widened to embrace infrastructure targets such as roads, rail links and power stations. The message is now addressed to the Serbian people as a whole: this is what ppens when your leader de-

liance becomes ever more the a "non-permissive" environ-

de facto air force of the Kosoment: in plain English, an invo Liberation Army, finessed vasion of sovereign Yugoslavia into providing cover for the inand the launch of a land war surgents to launch a land ofagainst Belgrade. fensive. Its neutrality would be Yesterday, Paddy Ashdown a sham. And, unlike Bosnia warned the West to plan for prefour years ago, all this without

tional ally, Russia. At this point nerves in London and Paris would be at snapping point. But what if Mr Milosevic still fails to see the light, while his forces, quite possibly resupplied by Russia, retain enough firepower to savage the ethnic Albanians? The last, worst scenario becomes reality. Nato is faced with the choice of ignominiously calling it quits, widening the bombing further and thus rallying Serbs

the backing of the United Na-

tions - indeed in the teeth of the

unalloyed opposition of two of

the five veto-holding permanent

members of the Security Coun-

cil, one of them Serbia's tradi-

cisely this. Logically, he is correct, for the lesson of Bosnia is that if the West wants to impose a Balkan peace where both sides have to make do with less than all they want - in this case an autonomous Kosovo that is still part of Serbia - a protectorate policed by Nato peacekeepers is the only way to achieve it. But logic can have

unpalatable conclusions. If they get it wrong, the Liberal Democrat leader warns, the big powers will be "on the threshold of a major ground conflict on the mainland of Europe... closer than at any time in the second half of the 20th century". Major ground conflict in Europe? At this point Kosovo's parbehind their leader - or doing allels come from the first, not what it has vowed it will never the second, half of the century. But in the process the al- do, sending ground troops into Far-fetched they may be, but they are also truly terrifying.

Ferocious Serb assault opens with executions

BY EMMA DALY in Srbica

AS THEIR houses burnt, terrified Albanians from the little town of Srbica in Kosovo told of the execution of more than 20 Albanians during the first day of a Yugoslav offensive. It began as international ceasefire monitors were evacuated from Kosovo on Saturday morning.

Babies cried and women wept as they described the Serbs' ferocious assault. "They came to our house wearing green uniforms and black masks," Adile Mustafa said. "They shelled our house in the morning, and the door was broken, we couldn't close it. They came in, shouting... you can see for yourself," she continued, gesturing towards thick plumes of smoke rising from houses

burning near by: The Serb soldiers and police could be seen sheltering behind armoured vehicles close to the police station, although most of the fire seemed to be booming out of Srbica, not coming in.

The buses overloaded with refugees and the burning houses evoked sinister echoes of the 1992-95 war in Bosnia and the bloody bouts of "ethnic cleans-

ing" that accompanied it.
"My husband and my sons were taken on Saturday, and we have no news of them," Mrs Mustafa continued, her eyes brimming with tears. "That day, they rounded up about 10 men and took them up the hill. and we heard shooting." Behind her, a bus overloaded with refugees set off for the northern town of Mitrovica. "It's better to kill us than to terrify us

like this," she said. But the Serbs are killing them. Ferad Zenune, 85, said they had seized his 35-year-old son, Mohamet, on Saturday, before ordering the family to leave. -Women, children and older men were pushed out of the house, and younger men were kept inside," be said, weeping. "I went to Schica vesterday, and I saw a lot of blood in my garden,



An ethnic Albanian refugee feeding her grandson near the Kosovo-Macedonia border yesterday Damir Sagolj

and a bloodied axe. I am afraid two Serbian policemen killed by that maybe they killed my son."

Another woman was walking back to Srbica yesterday to find the children and grandchildren she lost in the confusion on Saturday. "I saw with my own eyes that they killed a man." Dinora Shaqiri said. "He was in front of his house, in the doorway. They were wearing white uniforms and black masks, and they asked him for his guns. He said, 'I have no weapons', but they still killed him. They shot him with a big rifle, from close by," she said.

"I was on the third floor, and from my window I saw them take about 20 Albanian men, they surrounded them and killed them all." she continued. Mrs Shaqiri said she also saw

rebels from the Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA), who were on the hill opposite the main road. And she claimed to have seen the bodies of two men, the sons of Osman Musa, lying on the road outside the police station. Another woman said that

men had been taken to jail in the nearest large town "My husband was in Mitrovica prison but they let him go and told him to pass the message to Srbica people to go to Mitrovica to collect the bodies. They said Sabit Veliqi is dead, along with some people from Lausha with the surname of Vojvode." We never got her name, since the police moved us along. Baton Haxhiu, editor of

Koha Ditore newspaper, said

ple killed, including an acquaintance, Sabit Veliqi.

East of the town, a tank sat on a hill close to a burning house, the muzzle-flash visible as it fired towards rebel positions in Drenica, until recently the KLA stronghold. North, the refugee buses and our cars were held up for 30 minutes while a combined police and army force fired across the road into Drenica.

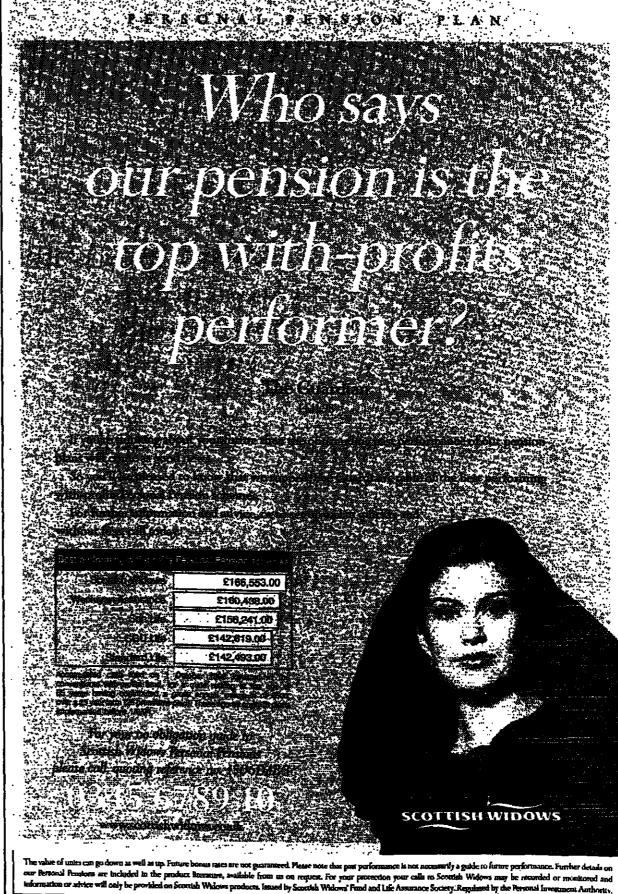
Three policemen strolled out of a house next to the road as smoke billowed out and flames shattered the windows. Before long, flames were surging through the roof and it was time for the convoy to move on.

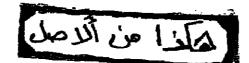
Back in Srbica, Mrs Mustafa -crying again - said: "The police just came past now and told us to go back to our houses, but how can we return to burnt houses. filled with a lot of smoke?"

She could not have known that about 20 miles to the south, thousands more Albanians were on the move, having fled their homes in the villages around Malisevo during the night, because of heavy fire in the area. Journalists stuck in the town of Glogovac, held by Serbs, on Sunday evening, heard outgoing artillery and rocket fire.

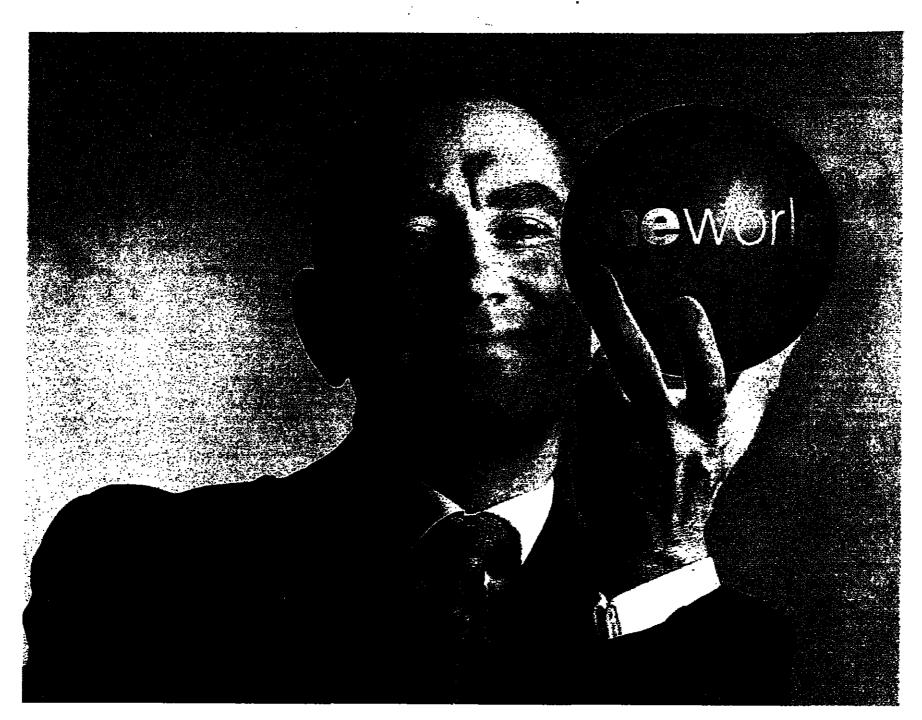
"The children were terrified when they heard the shooting and shelling they were so fright ened they were crying, so we had to leave," said Mohamet who fled his home near Trpeza village, with his wife, seven children, grandchildren, and his mother, who is paralysed. "We left at 11 o'clock at night, and because of the situation, we drove without lights, in a tractor convoy, along very bad roads."

The family is now camped with dozens more, in the dilapidated school building in Drenove village. Their plight indicates that the Serb offensive is moving south. It bodes ill for the thousands of Albanians still living in the rolling hills of southern Drenica. Unless Nato strikes, they will be next.





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'Mercy or murder' at trial of Dr Death

JURY SELECTION started yes- BY MARY DEJEVSKY terday at the court in Pontiac in Washington near Detroit for a murder trial quite unlike any other. In the dock when the trial opens will be a mild-mannered retired pathologist, Jack Kevorkian, known throughout America as Doctor Death for his outspoken advocacy of euthanasia, And while the charge is first degree murder, the victim, it will be argued, was a willing participant: Thomas Youk, 52, who had pleaded for death as relief from the last stages of the progressive Lou Gehrig's disease.

The trial is the first courtroom test of whether US law can tolerate mercy-killing. In recognition of the unusual nature of both the case and the defendant. Dr Kevorkian was yesterday granted permission to defend himself. Warned by the judge, Jessica Cooper, that he could receive a life sentence, the 70-year-old doctor replied "there is not much left". and insisted there were points he could convey better than the team of lawyers that has ad-

vised him in advance of the trial. The judge's decision gives Dr Kevorkian the sort of dramatic showdown he has sought for many years. Four times he has stood trial, but each time the charge was assisting the death of another person, not murder. Three times he was acquitted; the fourth time a mis-

trial was declared. This time, he and the court have conclusive evidence of what happened: a videotape he made of Mr Youk's death last September, including his administration of the fatal drugs and the moment at which life sses from Mr Youk's body. The tape provoked controversy when it was shown on US network television in November with the doctor's acquiescence.

For Dr Kevorkian, who says he has helped more than 130 terminally ill people to die in the past 10 years, the tape is proof that euthanasia - at least in this patient's case - is mercy and not murder. Mr Youk is seen begging to die. Members of his immediate family are seen giving his decision their blessing

For the prosecutors, the doctor is committing premeditated murder. He is knowingly injecting the patient with a substance that will kill him and leads - on camera - to his death. In the cases that have come to court, the patients themselves took the deathinducing drugs. In this case, the patient's disability ruled that out, so Dr Kevorkian did it himself, which is why the authorities had little option but to charge him with murder.

Clarifying the case further the judge last week stripped away an attendant charge of assisted suicide - which is a crime in the state of Michigan - leaving just two charges: first degree murder and delivering a controlled substance. The latter charge carries a maximum sentence of seven years in prison.

Legal experts said the assisted suicide charge had been dropped to prevent Dr Kevorkian from presenting emotive evidence about Mr Youk's physical plight, including the increasing difficulties he experienced breathing and swallowing. However, the move leaves the jury without a compromise position: if they acquit, assisted suicide is de facto legalised in Michigan; if not, anyone who can be proved to have helped someone to die could theoretically be convicted of



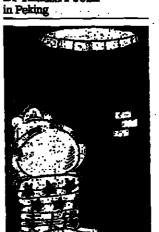
Women pass a mosque wall in Medina, Saudi Arabia, yesterday. Thousands of pilgrims have arrived for the annual haj which reaches a climax on 26 March

China produces poetic reply to S spy charge

RARELY ARE emotions at the By TERESA POOLE People's Dothy stirred strongly in Peking enough to prompt the mouthpiece of the Chinese communist party to burst into poetry. But Peking's exasperation at the anti-China fever sweeping the United States amid allegations of nuclear spying brought forth both verse and a cartoon yesterday, deriding America for returning to McCarthyism.

The cartoon showed a fat frog down a pitch-black well. sitting on an Uncle Sam hat bearing the Chinese characters for "McCarthy". In China, to siam someone as a irog in a well is an insulting way of saying they have a narrow viewpoint and cannot see what is going on around them. The poem read in part: "The myth of 'donorgate' has gone bankrupt, The strange case of 'stealing secrets' erupts... Learning from McCarthy with one's heart and soul, Stirring up demons to make trouble while masquerading as a hero." (In 1997, China was accused of donating to US election campaigns.)

While the literary merit of the niece is debatable, the sentiment behind the outburst is clear. Peking has already lambasted the "hysteria" of what it sees as an anti-China "witchhunt" over allegations that a Taiwan-born American scientist working at the Los Alamos National



Uncle Sam is accused of McCarthvism People's Daily

leaked nuclear secrets to Peking.

Yesterday, the governmentcontrolled Chinese-language press unleashed Peking's ire. The intellectual Guangming Daily called the allegations "no more than a cheap political trick played by the American military industrial bloc to increase the defence budget". The Pentagon wants funds for a theatre missile defence system in East Asia, which has enraged Peking because it might include Taiwan. The newspaper said next year's US presidential elections meant the Republican Party was hoping to

tary industries. "China-US relations have become a sacrificial object in domestic American politics," it said.

The Xinhua news agency attacked US accusations that Chinese scientists were collecting information for Peking. "Some Americans slandered the normal academic exchanges and contact between China and the US and this revealed their ignorance and arrogance," it said. This seems light years away

from President Bill Clinton's successful visit to China last summer. Now, nuclear spying. human rights and an everincreasing US trade deficit have combined to create the most difficult period for three years. The Prime Minister, Zhu Rongii, has said he expects a "hostile" reception when he visits the US next month, but that he will still make the trip so that the US could "vent its anger". Claims of nuclear spy-

ing were a "fallacy", he added. Peking did, however, admit yesterday that the scientist in question, Wen Ho Lee, had attended two conferences in China in 1986 and 1988.

Mr Lee was fired from Los Alamos earlier this month after The New York Times reported intelligence investigations into whether China had obtained information about the W-88 miniaturised nuclear

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Clinton asks Arafat to play a waiting game

BILL CLINTON meets Yasser By PATRICK COCKBURN Arafat in Washington today to try to persuade him not to declare a Palestinian state on 4 May as he has threatened to do.

President Clinton will almost certainly be successful. The Palestinian leader does not want to provoke formal Israeli annexations on the West Bank. Nor will he do anything to help Benjamin Netanyahu get re-elected as Israeli Prime Minister in the general election

in Jerusalem

on 17 May. A pre-election crisis would suit the Israeli leader nicely. Instead, Mr Arafat will try to obtain the highest possible price for delaying his declaration of statebood. He wants Washington and the European states to pledge to recognise a Palestinian state in the future. He also wants permanent and effective American involvement

in his negotiations with Israel He has now seen Mr Clinton three times in the five months since the still-born Wye accords were signed last October, while Mr Netanyahu has seen Mr Clinton only once.

Israeli diplomatic sources are quoted as saying that this ows "the tremendous power Mr Arafat has come to wield in Washington". This power may be more apparent than real. With the US presidential elec-

White House will not want to offend Jewish lobbying groups in the US. And while Mr Arafat is making diplomatic gains in Washington, Israel is making it more and more difficult for the reality of a Palestinian state to exist on the West Bank. The Jewish settlements continue to spread and new roads are turning Palestinian districts into iso-

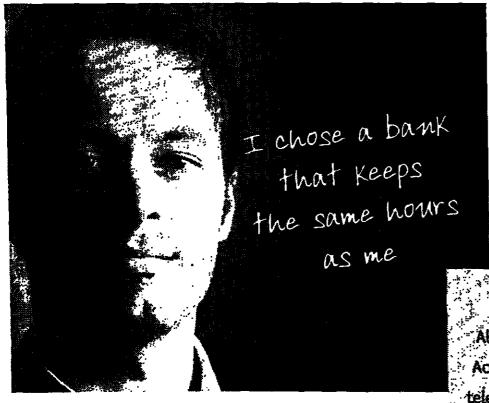
lated enclayes. At the same time, the 2.5 mil-

tion looming next year, the fion Palestinians living in Gaza tanyahu could successfully play and the West Bank have seen few gains from the Oslo accords. Their standard of living has plummeted and Mr Arafat needs to persuade them that deferring the declaration of an independent state is in their

> The Palestinian leadership is desperate to see the back of Mr a right to exercise their politi-Netanyahu in the election – an aim it shares with the White House. It knows that Mr Ne-

on the anxieties of the Israeli electorate if a Palestinian state is declared less than three weeks before the poll.

Tayeb Abdel-Rahim, a senior aide of Mr Arafat, said earlier in the week: "When Clinton was in Gaza in December, he said that the Palestinians have cal rights on their free land. We want him to go a step further



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Prodi tipped to head EU

look likely to choose a successor to Jacques Santer as president of the European Commission by the time they wrap up a summit meeting in Berlin on Friday morning. Last night the field of can-

didates had narrowed to two: Romano Prodi, the former Italian prime minister and Wim Kok, the Dutch Prime Minister. Mr Prodi, the clear favourite, has already been publicly en-

dorsed by most of the 15 governments. In London, British ministers said he was now the strong favourite: "There is a growing consensus behind

AND ANDREW GRICE

him," said one. The ministers hope agreement on his appointment might be reached at the summit of EU leaders in Berlin starting tomorrow, although the German hosts say it may take longer. Downing Street said yester-

day that Mr Prodi was "a very high quality person" and a "real Although Tony Blair's

spokesman said the same description would apply to Wim Kok, he had "given every indi-

Privately both the German Chancellor, Gerhard Schröder, and Mr Blair, have indicated they have a preference for Mr Kok. Mr Blair's spokesman sought to allay fears that the choice of an Italian might damage the EU's image in Britain because of the spate of corruption scandals in Italy. "It's pretty insulting to suggest the northern states are all clean and the southern ones corrupt." he said.

Michael Howard, the shadow foreign secretary, said Mr Blair's backing for the former

he has "failed utterly" to learn didate designated at Berlin. the lessons of last week's damning inquiry report on the Commission. Mr Howard said Mr Prodi "would take Europe further along the path to a single European state".

The European Parliament, in emergency session in Brussels last night, warned EU governments that the countdown to clearing out the old Commission and installing a new one had begun in earnest.

Labour's Pauline Green leader of the socialists, the biggest faction in the 626-member parliament, said her group The new president should be "experienced, competent and committed to in-depth reform". Socialists wanted "a whole new Commission in place with speed, properly ratified by this Parliament using the powers that will be given to us in the incoming Amsterdam Treaty".

Enforcing the terms of the Treaty early would also give the new president the right to refuse the names of individual commissioners put forward by the national governments. Germany's Foreign Minister, Josh-Britain's payments to Brus-sels would also fall. ka Fischer, promised MEPs

holds the EU presidency, is now hoping for parliamentary ratification of the new Commission president by mid-April. That would require a political agreement on the candidate at or shortly after the Berlin meeting, which opens tomorrow. ■Mr Blair is edging to a compromise deal over the special rebate on Britain's contributions to the EU, which is worth £2bn a year. The Prime Minister would accept a new formula that would reduce the value

of the rebate - but only because



An elderly beggar in a Moscow subway

Sally Army's gift of hope

STREET LIFE

THE RUSSIAN Orthodox Church may be suspicious of foreign missionaries but Vera Ivanovna, alone in the world at 93, is glad to receive a call from the Salvation Army. For their part, the "soldiers" do not impose their view of God on the elderly and disabled people they visit but try to help

them in practical ways. The "soldiers" in this story are not, in fact, foreigners but Russians who have chosen a different path from traditional Orthodoxy. Although in these times of crisis it seems that Russians are mostly on the receiving end of charity. there are those who are giving their lives to others.

Nina Salnikova leads a team that cares for the vulnerable in their own homes. She is rising in the Salvation Army in Russia, administered mostly by Americans who run soup kitchens for the homeless, a drug and alcohol rehabilitation programme and a prison ministry as well as social services.

I was looking out for Nina on the platform of Textilshiki (Textile Workers') metro station. Surely, I would spot her bonnet in the fur-hatted crowd. But it was she who picked out my floppy red velvet hat, giving me away as a daft foreigner. She had left her uniform at home and was wearing an astrakhan coat and floral headscarf.

We were going to visit Vera Ivanovna. On the bus, Nina told me her own story. Widowed, she had brought up three children, including a disabled son. She was on a list of the poor and received a food parcel from the Salvation Army. Moved by this, she decided to attend Bible classes and joined the army herself. Now she is one of their fulltime social workers.

Always on the lookout for new helpers, she goes to the labour exchange and offers cleaning jobs to people ready to work with the elderly. They do not have to be believers but ment block, we met Galya, one of Nina's recruits. Galya cleans and cares for seven

Vera Ivanovna. Cautiously, the old lady opened the door of her single room. Nina and Galya had ing a journalist. "I'm not a the force of our example." monkey," she said, fearing I

was going to photograph her I did not even take out a pen Galya gave her an apple in a cup, a belated present for international Women's Day Vera Ivanovna asked for new

curtains, as she found the spring sun too bright. Despite her frailty, she revealed a sharp mind. When her memories began to flow, they were of teaching Russian langua and literature to children in Once, she said, she was crit

icised for spending too much time on Turgenev and Chekhov and failing to give sufficient weight to Stalin and Lenin, A commission of inspectors arrived to supervise a lesson. Terrified that she might be condemned as an "enemy of the people", she decided to stick to grammar, which seemed an ideological ly free zone. She wrote the following sentence on the blackboard: "The people compose wonderful songs about our own wise, dear Stalin." Just in time, she realised her mistake and said: "Oh my goodness, I should have made Stalin the subject of the sentence." This self-criticism

saved her skin. I could have listened to her all morning but Vera Ivanovna tired of having guests. Galya stayed to do the cleaning while Nina and I got up to leave. "Don't come again," the old lady said to me, sweetly but firmly. I promised I would not

bother her any more. "We work with all kinds of people," said Nina when we were outside. "Some are badtempered, especially if they are ill. We understand." Harder for her to take must be the attitude of some of her countrymen. Because, under Communism, Russians grewused to the idea that the state provided, they can be suspicious of altruism. "They think I must be after something for

myself," she said. Frequently, she also comes up against the attitude that a "true Russian can only be they should be patient, honest Russian Orthodox". The Paand reliable. Outside an apart-triarchy may have reason to be concerned about some of the wackier sects operating in Russia but it also jealously lonely pensioners, including guards what it regards as its spiritual territory.

"Orthodox priests are sometimes less than friendly. They do not like us," said warned her they were bring- Nina. "We hope to convince by HELEN WOMACK

Finn PM sneaks home in tight poll

BY RUPERT CORNWELL

TO MUCH relief in Brussels. Paavo Lipponen looked likely to hang on to power yesterday as Finland's Prime Minister at the head of a centrist, pro-EU coalition, after earlier seeming to face defeat in a cliffhanger general election on Sunday.

Thanks to a surge in late returns, Mr Lipponen's Social Democratic Party pipped the agrarian Centre party to remain the largest single party with 51 seats, against 48 for the Centre Party and 46 for the Conservative Party, Mr Lipponen's main partner in the ruling "rainbow coalition".

A similar alliance is expected to underpin the next government, but after their best electoral performance the Conservatives are likely to demand an increase in their five cabinet

The premier, considered his country's most powerful politician ahead of President Martti Ahtisaari, was the driving force behind Finland's entry into the single currency, cementing the transition from it being an uneasy neighbour of Russia to the European mainstream. He is seen as a key to a successful Finnish presidency of the EU later this year.



Brady Tucker, 4 (left) and her cousin Terina Tucker, 6, looking out nervously from the evacuation centre at Saint Luke's college in Karratha, Western Australia yesterday. They were evacuated from the coastal town of Onslow as cyclone Vance approached

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Woman dies in 'satanic ritual'

A BELGIAN woman aged 35 By ELIZABETH NASH died near the town of Alicante in Madrid in southern Spain after being subjected to ritual satanic abuse in her own home, Spanish police said yesterday. Her four suspects detained in connection with the death, apparently caused by a ritual attempt miles from the village of L'Alfas to drive evil spirits from her

Nataly Castlesor was admitted to hospital in a coma on detached house she shared Saturday with her body covered with knife wounds and burns. according to reports. She died shortly afterwards from heart jects "that point to the activities and respiratory failure caused by the wounds.

The four suspects, two men and two women, appeared in court yesterday to make a Spanish husband was among statement, and a woman was subsequently freed. The victim had lived a few

del Pi near the resort town of Alicante on the Costa Blanca for several years. A search of the with her husband and their two sons, eight and five months. turned up implements and obcarried out by a ritual sect", the

authorities said.

IN BRIEF

French condemn Concorde

CONCORDE'S DAYS could be numbered, after Air France last night said it expected to take its seven supersonic airliners out of service within eight years because they were too expensive to operate. British Airways said it believed its seven would continue to be profitable and there were no plans to withdraw them.

Ecevit wins no-confidence yote

THE TURKISH government of Bulent Ecevit survived a no-confidence vote as parliament buried an Islamicbacked attempt to cancel general elections on 18 April. The Virtue Party was hoping to lift a political ban on the Islamic movement's former leader, Necmettin Erbakan, whom the army pushed out of power in 1997.

Pygmies helping Ugandan rebels

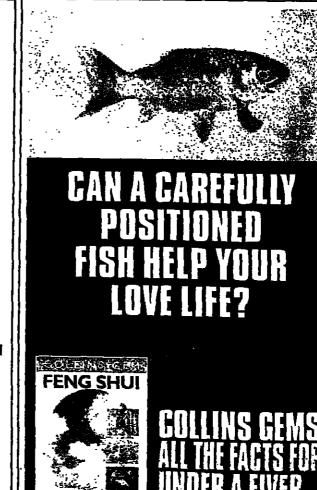
THE UGANDAN army is investigating reports that Pygmies are assisting rebels working to destabilise the government. Villagers in western Uganda also had complained that Pygmies were terrorising them, the independent Monitor newspaper said.

Pope's millennial visit to Holy Land

The Pope announced that he intended to make a historic visit to the Holy Land next March to mark the start of Christianity's third millennium. The visit to Israel and Palestinian self-rule areas follows talks in Jerusalem between Israel's Tourism Ministry and Vatican officials.

Pheasants slaughter each other

MORE THAN 1,000 pheasants living in overcrowded conditions on a Romanian farm killed one another. The prize pheasants began pecking one another to death at Pausa, a famous farm in Transylvania. The attacks apparently began because they didn't have enough room.



COLLINS understand more

BRIEF inglian gives share

MONEY MARKET RATES

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BUSINESS

BRIEFING

Anglian gives shareholders £44m

ANGLIAN GROUP, the building materials company, is to return £44m to shareholders via a special payment of 50p a share. The payout follows a balance sheet reorganisation, the company said, and leaves sufficient resources to fund organic growth and make any appropriate acquisitions. Eddie Boss, Anglian's chief executive, said: "The return of cash and a more efficient capital structure are in line with our aim to maximise total shareholder returns". Shares in Anglian, which also said current order intake was ahead of last year, closed up 31.5p

Somerfield goes direct



SOMERFIELD, the supermarket chain, has launched a home shopping division, Somerfield Direct. It will bring together all of Somerfield's existing remote shopping businesses, and will be chaired by group finance director Martin Gatto (pictured). Somerfield also announced yesterday the purchase of Flanagan's, a

î ondon-based home shopping business, for £3.25m. Flanagan's will be integrated into Somerfield Direct.

Regent deal collapses

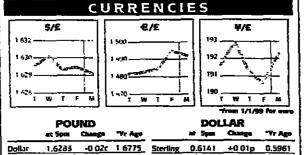
ATTEMPTS to forge a non-premium all-share merger deal between pubs groups Regent Inns and SFI collapsed after the two sides were unable to agree a price. Regent, whose brands include the Walkabout Inns chain of Australian theme pubs and Joogleurs comedy clubs, is believed to bave been pushing for a larger share of the merged company reflecting its slightly larger market capitalisation. SFI, whose brands include the Litten Tree and the For Your Eyes Only chain of lap dancing clubs, wanted a 50:50 split, while Regent was holding to the 60:40 split originally agreed. In a statement issued after the stock market closed, Regent said last night it felt it was better placed to "enhance shareholder value as an independent company.

FT\$E 100	DOM JONES	NIKKEI
5300	10000	16500 <u>× of dom 3/19</u>
5200	9950	15200
5100	9901	15800
6000	9850	1

Dote Jones Index and graph at 5pm						
		INDK	ES			
lades	Clase	Change Cu	 large(%) :	2 wk bigh 5	2 wk lew Yie	id(%)
FTSE 100	6152.80	-10.40	-0.17	6365,40	4599.20	2.64
FTSE 250	5488,40	-12.60	-0.23	5970.90	4247.60	3.00
FTSE 350	2935.10	-5.30	-0.18	3024.90	2210.40	2.70
FTSE All Share	2843.04	-4.14	-0.15	2923.83	2143.53	2.74
FTSE SmallCap	2399.10	12.40	0.52	2793.80	1834.40	3.62
FTSE Fledgling	1303.00	2.90	0.22	1517.10	1046.20	4.08
FTSE AIM	856.70	5.60	0.66	1146.90	761.30	1.07
FTSE Eurotop 100	2895,32	-15.72	-0.54	3079.27_	2018.15	2.04
FTSE Eurotop 300	1251.72	-6.38	-0.51	1332.07	880.63	1.95
Dow Jones	9908.54	5.27	0.05	10085.31	7400.30	1.60
Nikkei	16378.78	660.86	4,21	17111.59	12787.90	0.86
Hang Seng	11107.24	24,32	0.22	11926.16	6544.79	3.21
Dax	5027.06	-72.42	-1.42	6217,83	3833.71	1.71
S&P 500	1299,82	0.53	0.04	1323.88	923.32	1.24
Nasdaq	2413.21	-6.06	-0.33	2533.44	1357.09	0.28
Taronto 300	6611.80	12.98	0.20	7837.70	5320.90	1.60
Brazil Bovespa	10684.72	<u>-151.14</u>	-1,40	12339.14	4575.69	5.35
Berglum Bet20	3290.82	-31.67	-0.95	3713.21	2696.26	2.00
Amsterdam Exch	544,27	-2,90	-0.53	600.65	366.58	1.89
France CAC 40	4197.06	-22.59	-0.54	4404_94	2881.21	1.72
MBan MIB30	36606.00	-614.00	-1.65	39170.00	24175.00	1.07
Madrid Ibex 35	9955,10	-118.60	-1.18	10989.80	6869,90	1.75
krish Overall	5415.70	34.55	0.64	5581.70	3732.57	1.54
5 Korea Comp	607.74	3.52	0.58	651.95	277.37	0.95
Australia ASX	2985 <u>.</u> 50	1.00	0.03	2996.30	2386.70	3.02

INTEREST RATES					
SHORT STERLING	UK 10 YEAR GILT	US LONG BOND			
5 60	4.52	5.58			
5 40)	4.48*	5.54			
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MQ	NEY A	LARK	ET RA	TES	1	BOND	YIELD:	S
index.	3 month	Yr chg	1 Year	Yr chg	10 year	Yr chg	Long bood	Yr chg
UK	5.36	-2.21	5.30	-2.26	4.48	-1.43	4.47	-1.37
US	5.00	-0 69	5.31	-0.51	5.17	0.40	5.53	0.35
iapan	0 19	-0.51	0.23	-0.42	1.78	-0.03	2.59	0.22
Germany	3,02	-0.50	3.01	-0.78	3.97	-0.90	4.95	-0.48



Yen	192 28	+¥1 21	218.90	Yen	118.	17 -	FAD 84	130.46
£indes	103.00	+0.20	107.40	S Index	107.	60	+0.20	109.60
	ΟT	HE	R 11V	DIC	ΑT	O F	?S	
	Close	CHE	Yr Aga		tedes	O4	Yr aga	Rest Sgn
Brent Oil	(S) 13.27	C.10	12 65	GDP 1	15.40	3.00	112.04	Mar

Euro 1,4910 -0.36c 1.4079 Euro 0.9163 -17.30c 0.8571

Brent Od (S) 13.27	C.10	12 65	GDP	115.40	3.00	112.04	Mar
Gold (S)								
Silver (S)			5.93					
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TOURIST	RATES

Sampania (C)	2 6030	Movient (puero pero)	14.46
Australia (5)	2.4938	Mexican (nuevo peso)	14.40
Austria (schillings)	19.94	Netherlands (guilders)	3,1953
Belgium (francs)	58.59	New Zealand (5)	2.9335
Canada (\$)	2.3983	Norway (kroner)	12.29
Cyprus (pounds)	0.8385	Portugal (escudos)	289,28
Denmark (kroner)	10.86	Saudi Arabia (rials)	5.9269
Finland (markka)	8.6591	Singapore (\$)	2,6576
France (Iranes)	9.5224	South Africa (rands)	9.6340
Germany (marks)	2.8488	Spain (pesetas)	240.90
Greece (drachma)	467.40	Sweden (kronor)	13.05
Hong Kong (5)	12.22	Switzerland (francs)	2.3292
ireland (punts)	1.1422	Thailand (bahts)	54.94
Indian (rupes)	62.00	Turkey (Ikrasi)	570788
Israel (shekeis)	6 0468	USA (\$)	1.5891
Italy (lira)	2822		
Japan (yen)	187.31	Rates for indication pur	poses only
Malaysia (ringgits)	5.8695		
Malta (lira)	0.6201	Source: Thomas Cool	

Arnault gets upper hand in Gucci battle

BERNARD ARNAULT, the bil- By Peter Thal Larsen lionaire French businessman. yesterday appeared to gain the upper hand over his bitter rival Francois Pinault in the battle for Gucci, the Italian designer

A court in Amsterdam last night partly blocked a deal between Mr Pinault and Gucci which was designed to undermine attempts by LVMH, the champagne to suitcases group run by Mr Arnault, to gain control of the company.

Gucci had sturned investors on Friday when it announced a in the company to Pinault-Printemps-Redoute, the retail group controlled by Mr Pinsuit. in return for a \$3bn cash injection which valued Gucci at \$75

The court yesterday blocked provisions of the deal which would have allowed PPR to appoint three new directors to tabled by LVMH on Sunday. The

Gucci's board, giving the French group control of a key strategic and financial committee. It also restored voting deal to sell a 40 per cent stake rights to LVMR's 34.4 per cent shareholding, which would have been diluted. However, the ruling gives a green light for PPR to take its shareholding in

> Gucci said yesterday it would "seriously consider" an offer for the company, pitched at \$81 per share, which was

negotiations on the proposed takeover in the next few days.

LVMH made the bid after Gucci's board rejected an earlier offer of \$85 a share, which was conditional on the compacept the bid because it did not

apply to all its shareholders. Under the terms of the revised offer, LVMH is effectively offering to pay Mr Pinault \$240m more for his stake than

day. However, it is unclear whether Mr Pinault will walk away or decide to launch a full takeover bid himself.

The moves follow another twist in the battle for control of ny abandoning its deal with Gucci, which has dragged on for PPR. Gucci said it could not acmore than six months. In another dramatic day Domenico de Sole, Gucci's chief executive, and Pierre Gaudet, an LVMH board member, faced each other in a crowded courtroom in Amsterdam, where Gucci's

two companies are due to start he agreed to pay for it on Fri- shares are listed. Mr Gaudet told the court LVMH had been "shocked and disappointed" by Gucci's deal with PPR, which was announced on the morning that Gucci and LVMH had been due to start negotiating about board representation for the French group.

But Mr de Sole defended the move: "We have turned Gucci from a company that was almost bankrupt to a multibillion dollar enterprise," he

Taylor wins a £1.6m pay-off from Barclays

BY ANDREW GARFIELD Financial Editor

MARTIN TAYLOR, who shocked the City when he walked out on his £1m-a-year job as chief executive of Barclays Bank last November, has negotiated a £1.6m pay-off with his former

Mr Taylor, who until his departure was regarded as one of the most promising business leaders of his generation, is also expected to be allowed to cash in share options worth, on the basis of yesterday's share price, at least £3m.

The pay-off, revealed in Barclays's annual report, is substantially higher than had been expected. Mr Taylor was on a one-year contract. The settlement is based on the package, including performance-related bonuses and share options, that Mr Taylor could have expected to have received had he stayed on for another year.

The report, which was posted to shareholders vesterday. also reveals that Mr Taylor, 46. received a total pay and bonus package of £957,000 last year a rise of 30 per cent on the £738,000 he received in 1997. In addition he made profits of more than £300,000 on his existing share options.

of setbacks culminating in the £350m charge against last year's accounts to cover Russian bond losses, and the bank's participation in the \$3.75bn (£2.3bn) bail-out of the troubled US hedge fund, Long-Term Capital, which undermined boardroom confidence in the chief executive and sowed the seeds for his dramatic depar-

The salary of Andrew Buxton, who retires as chairman at next month's annual meeting,



Martin Taylor (left) with chairman Andrew Buxton; Barclays may be about to undergo a dramatic shakeup

Mike O'Neill, a former chief financial officer of the American banking giant BankAmerica, is due to take up his new

post on Friday. Mr O'Neill, whose arrival is said to herald a dramatic shake-up, will receive a total compensation package worth £15m over three years, making him by far the highest paid banker in the UK, although it is a relatively modest salary by American standards.

fell from £579,000 to £523,000. clays shares have risen by cause in that year - the annus year. Lord Alexander also re-emerged to head a new pro-European but anti-euro think tank with Lord Owen.

Derek Wanless, the chief executive of National Westminster Bank whose pay was also disclosed to shareholders yesterday, saw his salary nearly double to £832,000 last year from £450,000 in 1997. That still left him tralling Mr Taylor, despite the strong turnaround in

NatWest's results last year. The huge jump in Mr Wan-Since Mr Taylor quit, Bar- less's salary was mainly be-

Markets, the bank's equity capital markets business, fell into the red – Mr Wanless waived performance-related

bonus, worth £350,000 last year. Martin Owen, who headed NatWest Markets, later resigned and the business was Lord Alexander, who steps

down this year as chairman in favour of Sir David Rowland, the former chairman of Lloyd's of London, saw his salary rise from £434,000 to £720,000 last

Myners, the head of Gartmore the fund management group bought by NatWest, quadrupled his salary to £457,000 . He too refused a 1997 bonus due to of Gartmore's poor investment performance that year.

As of 31 December 1998, Mr. Wanless is sitting on share options worth £1.82m at yester

day's share price of £14. Lord Alexander last year made a profit of £90,000 from exercising options. He is still sitting on options worth £1.4m.

surprisingly good news on the

surplus at the tail end of last

year was a record surplus on

net income from direct invest-

ment, resulting from the high-

er losses repatriated by foreign-owned banks and oil

companies. This boosted the

balance of payments overall by

US cable giants agree \$60bn link-up

BY DAVID USBORNE in New York

AMERICA'S fourth-largest cable television supplier. Comcast, said yesterday it plans to buy Colorado-based MediaOne, the third-largest, in a \$60bn (£37bn) stock deal.

The agreement, the costliest ever struck in the industry. turned the spotlight on two British companies part-owned by MediaOne - One2One, the mobile phone company, and Telewest Communications, Britain's second-biggest cable

company by sales. Comcast, based in Philadelphia, and MediaOne combined will be an industry heavyweight, well placed to offer not just television channels but also Internet and telephone services. It will have broadband access to 18 per cent of US homes. Its biggest rivals will be Time Warner and AT&T which recently completed its buyout of cable

giant TeleCommunications. Speculation spread yesterday that the deal could trigger further consolidation in the British communications MediaOne has a 29.9 per cent stake in Telewest it could be

also owns half of One2One with equal partner Cable & Wireless. The future of Telewest may be doubly unclear as another of its owners, with 21.6 per cent, is TeleCommunications, that is now part of AT&T As a result, as much of 51 per cent of

Telewest could be up for grabs. Yesterday's developments could also herald a public offering for One2One. "The net result may be that Telewest is bid for either by NTL or Cable & Wireless Communications," said John Tysoe, telecoms analyst at SG Securities. "The whole industry is looking for some kind of consolidation. This is only the beginning."

There was no indication from MediaOne yesterday that it intended baling out of either One2One or Telewest. Even so, the marriage to Comcast means that the contribution to revenues from international operations will shrink from 20 per cent, as it is now for MediaOne. to 10 per cent.

Comcast has wide interests in the US, including a 57 per cent stake in QVC, the home shopoing network, as well as holdings in the E! and Golf channels and two Philadelphia sporting franchises. Among the owners of Comcast is Microsoft. Bill Gates paid \$1bn for an 11.5 per cent stake in Comcast in 1997.

The cable industry is banking heavily on its ability to break into the fast-growing Internet market. Its broadband networks have an advantage over telephone lines as they can deliver sound and moving pictures

Growth slowdown boosts rate hopes

ECONOMIC GROWTH in the BY DIANE COYLE UK almost ground to a halt in the final three months of last year, according to revised fig-ures out yesterday. This will help tilt the balance in favour

of lower interest rates next month, analysts said. "Taken with the minutes of the last meeting, this suggests the Monetary Policy Committee will cut rates," said Steven Bell, chief UK economist at

Deutsche Bank.

The level of gross domestic product edged up by just 0.1 per cent in the final quarter, revised down from 0.2 per cent. Growth for the year as a whole was a subdued 1.1 per cent.

The figures showed consumer spending keeping the economy from entering outright recession. Household spending was higher than ini- the middle of the 1980s that

Economics Editor

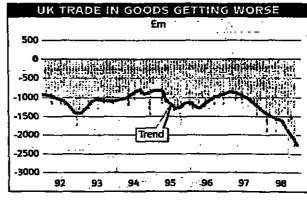
tially estimated, up by 0.6 per cent on the quarter. However, the gap between the fortunes of consumers and companies grew wider. Stock building by businesses was weaker than originally reported, as was the contribution of

per cent drop in exports. The strong pound also contributed to a 2.4 per cent drop in company profits compared with the previous quarter.

trade to growth owing to a 1.6

Separately, the Office for National Statistics reported a surprise balance of payments surplus in both the final quarter of 1998 and in the year as a

This is the first time since



Britain has been in the black for two years running. But the underlying trends

were less favourable. The deficit on trade in goods climbed to £6.3bn in the fourth quarter, the highest since 1989. Last year's shortfall was the

third-highest on record. In addition, the surplus on trade in services shrank to

£2.9bn from £3.5bn in the third quarter, although it reached a record £12.7bn in 1998 as a whole.

The real explanation for the

£7.5bm in the fourth quarter and £18.8bn during the year. Levels of both outward and inward direct investment reached new highs last year. British companies invested £69bn abroad, up from £38.9bn in 1997. This included the £32.6bn BP acquisition of US oil company Amoco.

Foreign companies invested £38.1bn in the UK, up from £22.6bn in 1997. But the pace of inward investment into Britain slowed sharply in the final quarter of last year.

AROUND THE WORLD'S MARKETS

LONDON

BLUE CHIPS turned in another lacklustre display with Footsie, at one time up 36.9 points, ending 10.4 down at 6.152.8. Proposed dividend payments accounted for about half

Much of the day's action occurred on the market undercard with the small cap index gaining 12.4 to 2,399.1 following a further outbreak of takeover action. Dixons, the electrical retailer, was again one of the day's top perform-

Derek Pain, page 21

NEW YORK US BLUE CHIPS made modest

gains yesterday in quiet trading. with the Dow up 12 points to 9916 by 1.30pm New York time. Internet stocks underpinned

the market as traders anticipated a settlement of the anti-trust action against Microsoft by the US authorities, and ING Barings published bullish research on the sector. But computer stocks fell slightly on negative earnings news from IBM and Dell. US Treasuries were boosted by a £7bz bond offering by AT&T.

HONG KONG SHARES ADVANCED modestly in

the absence of any prompting from Tokyo, where the market was closed for a public holiday. The Hang Seng closed up 24.32 points, or 0.22 per cent, at 11,107.24 The gains built on a 3.7 per cent

rise on Friday, when the index topped the 11,000 watershed. Traders said they were expecting China to enter the Wold Trade Organisation when Zhu Rongii, the Chinese Premier, visits Washington next month.

MILAN

SHARES IN Italy closed lower after a volatile day's trading which saw some stocks suspended because of excessive gains. The Mib30 index of leading shares stipped 1.65 per cent to 36,606.

Weekend news of two giant banking mergers initially pushed shares bigher. Banca di Roma closed 7.88 per cent up while San Paolo fell 5.31 per cent. BCI closed up 5 per cent while Uni-Credito fell by the same amount.

PARIS

PARIS SHARES slipped yesterday as traders worried about the inflationary impact of the recovery in oil prices. The CAC-40 index fell 0.54 per cent to 4,197.06 in subdued trading

Elf and Total were hit, falling 1.35 per cent and 1.73 per cent respectively. Other stocks followed as traders worried about the knock-on impact on commodity prices. Cyclical stocks were marked down, including Legrand, down 3 per cent and Schneider, down 1.35 per cent.

CHAI PATEL is making a comeback in the healthcare sector with a recommended cash offer for Westminster Health Care Holdings that values the nursing homes group at £314m.

Dr Patel, former chairman of Court Cavendish Group and former chief executive of Care-First Group, has formed a new vehicle, Canterbury Healthcare (CHC), to take Westminster private.

The offer is worth 311p per share, representing a premium of 68 per cent over the closing price of Westminster on 19 March. There will be a partial loan note alternative available. Dr Patel said Westminster's

board had unanimously agreed to recommend that shareholders accept the offer. He said: 'We very much want to work with Westminster's management.

"The nursing home sector has been through a very difficult period. But we're taking a iong-term view, and over the long term the prospects for the sector are very good," he Dr Patel will become chief

executive of the enlarged group, while Westminster's chief executive. Pat Carter, will act as a consultant. Mr Carter owns about 3 per cent of Westminster's stock, or 2.7 million shares, worth £8.3m under the terms of the deal. The deal fitted with the ve-

hicle's long-term growth strategy, said Dr Patel. Canterbury's investors include private equity funds managed by US investment bank Goldman Sachs, as well as a number of large US healthcare funds. Westminster, which is one of

the UK's largest private-sector healthcare providers to the elderly, has 95 nursing homes with about 5,800 beds. It made pre-tax profits before exceptional items of £16.1m in the year to 31 May 1998 on sales of £134.6m.

The principal investors in CHC will be Whitehall Street Real Estate Limited Partnership XI, GS Capital Partners (funds affiliated with Goldman Sachs), an American healthcare fund called Welsh, Carson, Second, it has historically Anderson & Stowe and WCAS Canital Partners.

Canterbury is also backed by Anthony Heywood, a long-time colleague of Dr Patel and a former finance director of Court Cavendish Group and former

Turnover (£)

144.77m (135.64n

Name

News Analysis: This time oil price rises may stick, spelling near-term economic danger

Why Opec's back in business

BY LEA PATERSON

THE ORGANISATION of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec), which meets in Vienna today, is back in business as a key influence on world oil production.

After several years during which Opec's ability to influence oil prices has waned, there are high hopes that it will be able to strike a deal to curb production and provide a much-needed boost to the oil in-

Oil prices have already soared to a five-month high amid market hopes of effective Opec action. Two weeks ago, at a pre-summit meeting in the Netherlands, key Opec members hammered out a series of proposals for production cuts. Talk of production cuts was,

in itself, nothing new. Just last year, for example, Opec agreed a range of supply reductions, but widespread cheating on quotas meant there was no substantial impact on prices.

This time round, though, the market seems to be convinced that Opec – which is expected to ratify its pre-summit proposals in Vienna todav – can make the new quotas stick. As a result, oil prices are running almost 40 per cent higher than they were during the autumn's 12-year lows.

Analysts have identified several factors that should help to support the oil price in the short term. First, there are political considerations. Part of the reason why supply cutbacks failed to materialise last year was a long-running rivalry between Saudi Arabia and

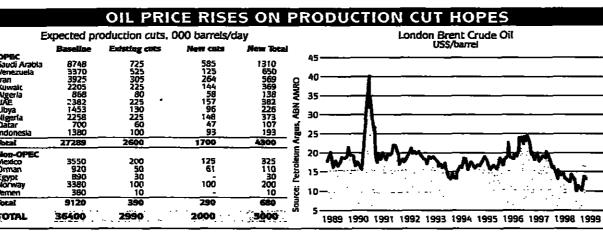
Last year, Iran was not actively involved in negotiating the quotas, and objected vehemently to the cuts proposed by rival Opec nations. In recent weeks there has been an attempt at reconciliation by Saudi Arabia and Iran, Opec's two largest producers, with Saudi's Prince Abdullah doing much of the running.

The two nations have been spearheading this latest attempt to cap oil supply. Saudi Arabia and Iran seemed to have patched up their difficulties," said Stephen Lewis, chief economist at Monument Derivatives. "The shift in the Saudi position is a new element in the situation."

been easier for Opec to implement production cuts when oil prices are rising, as they are at the moment, than when they are falling, as they were for most of last year. As Mr Lewis said: "If Opec gov-



High hopes: Nigeria's oil minister, Rasheed Abiodun Gbadamosi, arrives at a Vienna hotel for the crucial Opec summit today Ronald Zak/AP



through higher prices the poming from production cuts, they can afford to be more relaxed about the situation than when both output and prices are declining.

Third, the economic havoc wreaked by the recent low oil prices in Opec countries many of which are almost wholly dependent on oil revenues - has toughened the political will to make the new

quotas work. Senior officials from all the Opec nations have been talking tough in recent days. There has been a realisation throughout

act, the economic misery will only get worse. In the short term, there-

fore, the market seems convinced that oil will hold on to its recent price gains. However in the longer term sentiment is far more hearish. Few experts believe the oil price will continue to chalk up sizeable Fewer still think Opec will

achieve its stated aim of pushing the price of West Texas intermediate, currently running at around \$15 a barrel, back to the \$18 to \$20 range. Fundamentals are weak world oil demand is expected

year, while stock overhangs in oil-producing countries remain high. The incentives to cheat on the quotas will increase as the oil price rises. And Opec is far less powerful than it was during the 1970s, when it had a virtual stranglehold over oil

supply. It now controls less

than one-third of world pro-

Rachel Beaver, analyst at ABN Amro, said: "Last week's surge in oil prices clearly owed more to sentiment than to fundamentals, which indicate demand remaining sluggish, stocks high and spare upstream capacity.

short of Opec's optimistic expectations, its recent minirecovery has important implications for the world economy. For the world's oil producers, stantially against the dollar amid fears that an oil price rise it's great news. London benchmark Brent crude now stands could damage any economic at around \$13.50 a barrel, well recovery in the region. off last year's low of less than

Industry rule-of-thumb is that it is difficult for most producers to make any money at all when London Brent falls below \$12 a barrel. Not surprisingly, then, the recent turn of events has put a smile back on the faces of oil barons the world over.

IN BRIEF

Victory considers buying Cadoro company for Richard Branson's Virgin Clothing company, said it was considering buying Cadoro, the menswear retailer, after lending the company 25.2m in a failed bid to stop it collapsing. In the past five weeks, Victory has lent the money to Cadoro, which sells Virgin Clothing and owns the Capolito Roma brand, to avert a cash flow crisis, but vesterday the company went into administration.

Victory an AlM-listed company 55 per cent-owned by Mr Branson, is now in talks with PriceWaterhouse Coopers, the administrators. over the purchase of Cadoro.

Flowers droops

SHARES IN Flying Flowers. the troubled mail-order plants group, tumbled 7 per cent to 209p vesterday after the group announced a 19 per cent fall in profits. The company, which last week announced the departure of its chairman and two other directors, said sales at its key Gardening Direct division were unlikely this year to return to 1997 levels.

Schroder assets

SHARES IN Schroder Ventures International Investment Trust jumped by 13 per cent to 232.5p as the company said its assets had risen in value by one-third. Net asset value per share rose to 287.7p as the company revalued its stake in Charles Vogele, a Swiss clothing retailer that plans to float later this year.

however, this rise in the oil

price could spell danger.

Michael Saunders, at Salomon

Smith Barney/Citibank, has

calculated that if Brent prices

rise to \$15 a barrel, inflation in

the euro area could be boost-

ed by up to half a percentage

point this year and as much as

1.5 points next year as the rise

in production costs feeds

A rise in inflation presents

risks to growth, and there are

fears in the markets that a

resurgence in commodity in-

flation could prompt the

world's monetary authorities to

put up interest rates. Those

countries with no oil reserves

of their own - such as Japan -

have the most to lose. Already

the yen has weakened sub-

Of course, this all needs to

be kept in proportion - the

power that Opec wields over

the world economy is far less

than during its heyday of two

decades ago. But recent events

have shown that it would be

premature to write off the

organisation altogether.

through to consumer prices.

Nationwide free

NATIONWIDE BUILDING Society said it is abolishing all charges for using cash machines in any part of the world. Current account holders will be able to make withdrawals at no charge from 500,000 Visa machines and 350,000 Cirrus machines. Ti's jet parts buy

TI GROUP, the engineer, is to

buy a maker of jet engine components for \$58m (£35m) in cash. Tri-Manufacturing, an Indiana-based US company owned by GE Aircraft Engines, will be integrated into TI Group's Dowty Turbine Engine Components (D-TEC) business. TI estimated the one-off cost of integration to be \$3m (£1.8m), and said that Tri-Manufacturing would be earnings-enhancing in its first full year within the

Swansea Dry Docks closed

01.06.99 26.04.99 THE CLOSURE of the Swansea Dry Docks company yesterday by the Cayman Islandsbased Ugland International Holdings group ends 60 years of ship repairing at the South Wales port, writes Tony Heath. The move means the loss of the jobs of 200 full and part-time staff, many highly skilled and well paid.

Hopes for the company's long-term future were high when vehicle shipping group Ugland bought the docks six years ago, with the ferry companies P&O and Stena among users. But competition from overseas, notably Poland, and unfavourable exchange rates squeezed the business. In 1997 it lost £482,000 on turnover of £5m, rising in 1998 to a £4.3m loss on turnover of £4.6m.

Ugland, which wrote off the £3.5m value of the business in its results, is hoping to sell the site as development land.

The group's chief executive, Jonathan Palmer, said the company was not prepared to go on keeping the dry docks afloat. "It (the closure) is regrettable and we are sorry about it, but we are not in the business of losing money," he said.

Ugland is focusing on its global business of shipping

vehicles and preparing them at ports, particularly on the US Atlantic seaboard. Ugland last year recorded a 17 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £15.7m on an £80.3m turnover. Swansea's maritime tradi-

tion was founded more than a century ago on coal exports, but today only one deep mine is still in production in Wales. Swansea Cork Ferries runs

regular crossings between Wales and Cork, and much of the inner harbour has been turned into a yachting marina overlooked by flats and houses.

The first dry dock was built in 1923 and the second in 1959. The redundant site could be destined for a makeover similar to London Docklands.

WISE SPEKE LTD

On 6 April 1999 Wise Speke Ltd will transfer its obligations as trustee in respect of client money balances to its parent company Brewin Dolphin Securities Ltd. If any client objects to such a transfer they should contact the Compliance Department, Wise Speke Ltd, Commercial Union House, 39 Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 6RQ and arrangements will be made to repay to them any money held on their behalf.

Both Wise Speke Ltd and Brewin Dolphin Securities Ltd are members of the London Stock Exchange and regulated by the Securities and Futures Authority Ltd.

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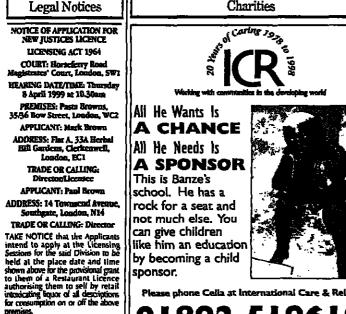
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Birthday Greetings

TT ponders higher offer for Hall

TT GROUP is considering whether to raise its bid for Hall Engineering and will announce its decision by Friday, the engineering firm said yesterday, writes Peter Thal Larsen.

John Newman, TT executive chairman, said the group had been waiting to see Hall's accounts, released last week. "We are seriously contemplating raising our offer," he said.

TT has cut 540 jobs, 6 per cent of its workforce, this year. The cuts, which will trigger a £1.9m charge, were in response to the pound's strength, which caused a 2 per cent fall in turnover and limited pre-tax

profits to £65m,up 4 per cent. In January, TT launched a hostile bid for Hall worth £51.8m; Hall rejected it as "derisory". Hall shares were unchanged at 140p yesterday. TT shares closed up 1.5p at 195p.

Barclays Bank PLC

Notice to Barclays Student and Graduate Account Customers

From 19th April 1999, the credit interest rate for your Student - Higher Education or Graduate account will be as follows:

Rates for quarte	Rates for quarterly interest on balances of £1 or more				
	Gross Rate/AER*	Previous Gross Rate/AER*			
Student – Higher Education Account and Graduate Account	0.10%	0.30%			

With effect form 19th April 1999, our unauthorised overdraft rate will be charged at a rate of 21% above the Bank's Base Rate, which is currently 5.5% t, on the excess amount only.

The total rate would then be 26.5%.

Gross Rate - interest is payable gross to non-taxpayers subject to the required certification. AER - stands for Annual Equivalent Rate and illustrates what the interest rate would be if interest was paid and compounded each year.

† The current Base Rate is 5.5%, this may yarv.

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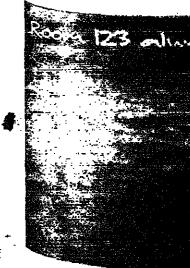
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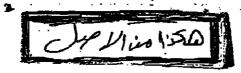
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No point in this supermarket probe

THE SUPERMARKETS have become resigned in recent weeks to the likelihood of a full Monopolies and Mergers Commission investigation, both of their prices and the way they treat suppliers. The Office of Fair Trading is expected to publish the findings of its preliminary probe by the end of the month and, en what the Chancellor said in the Budget about his determination to crack down on "rip-off" Britain, the industry expects a reference shortly thereafter.

Nobody outside the City has much sympathy for the big supermarket groups, but even so, it is hard to see what an MMC inquiry is going to achieve, outside some po-litical point-scoring.

There may be something to be said for putting the frighteners on an industry which undoubtedly attempts to squeeze both customers and suppliers in equal degree. But inconvenience. The higher grocery even if some form of complex mo-nopoly, or series of local monopo-prived areas pay is a different issue. lies, does exist what can the Government do about it? Another Price Commission? Heaven forbid. With the brewers, the Government settled on a break-up, but it economies of scale that spring from didn't stop the price of beer from continuing to rise.



OUTLOOK

is possible to find most things that supermarkets sell at cheaper, and sometimes considerably cheaper, prices. Furthermore, most consumers know this. But it is inconvenient and very time-consuming to shop in this way. The trade-off, then, is between higher prices and

In fact, there are two obvious solutions to the problem of high supermarket prices. First we could join the euro, giving consumers access to the extremely large trading regions. Second, we could allow our green and

pleasant land to be ploughed up for in France and Spain - is a highly British banks to seek consolidating the development of American style shopping malls, and the roads to service them. Fundamentally, this is why prices are cheaper in the US - the economy is much larger and there are few planning constraints. For some reason the Government doesn't seem immediately inclined to either course of action.

Italian job

SWISS, SPANISH, French and now The truth of the matter is that it Italian banks are doing it - so why not British banks too? The urge to merge is sweeping the European banking sector, but since Lloyds tied the knot with TSB, British banks have proved largely resilient to the process. Will they not be forced to join the party?

Some of them would dearly like to, but actually there is no reason why the latest outbreak of merger mania on the Continent should prompt any response over here. This heightened period of merger activity may have parochial significance, but internationally, it is of little relevance.

to a lesser extent its counterparts of a public policy shift enabling

fragmented one, with no bank having more than 8 per cent of the national market. Small in national terms, they are big in regional representation

Each of the four parties involved in Italy's two proposed banking mergers have their own regional strongholds. As such, they are more akin to the coming together of a NatWest and Bank of Scotland, than a NatWest and Barclays.

Even after these mergers, there is bigger than Barclays or NatWest So the idea that Continental banking mergers, which are in part a response to the free market reform being brought about by the introduction of the euro, could be a justification for consolidation in Britain too, doesn't really stack up.

In Britain, the Government remains as opposed to the idea of further banking consolidation as ever. Don Cruickshank has been instructed to conduct a wide-ranging investigation of banking on the Government's behalf, to establish whether the structure of the banking market short-changes the The Italian banking scene - and British economy, so the possibility

mergers seems remote.

So far, we've yet to see any significant cross-border merger activity and that presumably has to be the next stage. Even with the birth of the curo, however, the cultural and structural obstacles to such mergers remain profound. British banks have been asked on a number of occasions what they might be able to do with Credit Lyonnais; unsurprisingly they have taken the view that this is a risk too will be no single Italian bank which far. Any opportunity that is not, in effect, a rescue, would probably be

> None the less, someone will eventually take the plunge. Regrettably - or mercifully, depending on your point of view - the regulatory and management obstacles involved will probably mean that when such a transaction does take place, it won't involve a British bank

closed to them.

Meanwhile, the question on everyone's lips - will Italy's new-found love of Anglo-Saxon takeovers lead to the final demise of Enrico Cuccia, at 93 still the acknowledged Don of Italian capitalism? Rumour has it that actually he's been dead for years. His influence was almost entirely absent

winged chariot base talready carried him off, business realities seem to have done the job instead.

Sterling supreme

IF THERE is one signal above all others that indicates the British economy is likely to enjoy a soft rather than a hard landing, it is the strength of the pound. Everyone knows that sterling has been gaining ground against the beleaguered euro. But in trade-weighted terms, too, it has been climbing for most of this year, and is fast heading back towards the levels that made exporters squeal

with pain last spring and summer It is hard to see any relief on the horizon for British manufacturers. The latest GDP figures confirmed that the economy had more or less stalled by the final quarter of last year, and it is likely to remain in the doldrums for the first half of this year. Trade in goods and services has weakened.

Yet this is pretty mild as downturns go. The Bank of England has cut interest rates decisively in response to early warnings of weakness. The Government's financial from these mergers, so if time's position is sound, in a dramatic

turnaround from the mid-1990s. The new monetary and fiscal policy framework has won trust in the inancial markets.

What's more, it is hard to think of anywhere else investors might want to put their money. Euroland is slowing, with GDP in Germany and Italy in outright decline. The Nikkei in Japan has come off the bottom quite dramatically since the start of the year, largely in response to foreign interest, but few would bet the Japanese economy is out of the mire yet. Much of the emerging world economy is in recession. There is the American juggernaut, of course, but many investors already hold more in US assets than they might think wise in

other circumstances. So the strength of the pound is half a signal of confidence in the British economy, half a thumbs down for much of the rest of the

Whatever the balance of explanations, neither points to any exchange rate weakening on the horizon. Nor is there a lot the authorities can do about it. The strong pound has to be seen as a badge of pride, no matter how unwelcome it

Bank workers vote to create super-union

NEARLY 200,000 employees at the BY BARRIE CLEMENT big retail banks have voted overwhelmingly to create the world's largest finance sector union, it was announced yesterday.

About 95 per cent of the members of three existing unions opted for a merger they believe will give them far more muscle in dealing with management.

As the poli results were revealed, the new organisation disclosed that nine out of 10 of its members at NatWest had rejected a 3 per cent pay offer and seven of 10 wanted to hold a ballot on industrial action.

up of BIFU. UNIFI and the NatWest Staff Association - declared its intention to expand ven further, initially targeting the Lloyds TSB Group Union that claims to have a membership of 20.000.

Set to be formally established on 18 May the new organisation will be called UNIFL an amended version of the name of one of its constituents. The grouping hopes that part of its growth will come from recognition deals under the Employment Rela-tions Bill scheduled to be enacted in the next 12 months.

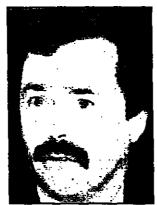
Labour Editor

Ed Sweeney, general secretary of BIFU, who is expected to lead the new union after elections next year, said HSBC/Midland could be one of the first employers to be challenged under the new law.

Management at the bank withdrew union recognition rights from around 2,500 managers, many of whom have remained union members. Mr Sweeney believes that UNIFI will regain recognition auto-The new super-union - made matically because the new union need and want one voice' retains more than half the mem-

Welcoming the vote to create general secretary of the Trades Union Congress, said: "I can see this becoming one of the great TUC trade unions very soon."

Mr Sweeney said it was clear that staff in the finance industry "needed and wanted one voice". He said the amalgamation mirrored existing mergers between financial institutions and was established in the knowledge that there were more to come. The new organisation was a



Sweeney of BIFU: 'Staff

symbol of the fact that employees' representatives had forthe new union, John Monks, gotten the antagonisms between unious and staff associations. from which the only beneficiaries

Membership of the new grouping would stand at 193,000. but there was a total of 1.5 million employees in the sector a million of whom were in inhouse staff associations and all of whom were potential members, Mr Sweeney said. Among the targets were

"Some staff will get 3 per cent, others will get nothing," he said. His association would attempt to negotiate a better deal in the wake of the vote for a ballot on industrial action, he sai In contrast Iain MacLean, assistant general secretary of UNIFL said that an offer of 4 per cent at Barclays plus improvements in benefits was accept

butions in the city, foreign-owned

banks, building societies and

Rory Murphy, general secre-tary of the NatWest association,

announced that the Royal &

SunAlliance staff association

had decided to merge with his

organisation and that talks were

going ahead with other organi-

sations. "Instead of beating the

crap out of each other, we are

now concentrating on manage-

Referring to a dispute at

NatWest, he said the company

had been making profits of £2bn,

but were only prepared to offer

up to 3 per cent to employees.

ment," said Mr Murphy.

able. "It shows it is possible to reach agreements with employers which benefit both the business and the employmedium-sized and small instiees," he said.

Soros moves to buy the **NatWest Tower**

GEORGE SOROS, the financier whose bet against sterling rocked the City in 1992, yesterday moved to buy one of its most famous landmarks, the NatWest Tower, when one of his companies launched a £211m bid for the building's co-owner, Greycoat.

By Francesco Guerrera

Delancey Estates - a property group where Mr Soros controls nearly 60 per cent of the shares – put an end to months of speculation by tabling a paper offer valuing each Greycoat share at around 195p.

The all-paper deal proposed by Delancey, where the chairman of British Land John Ritblat, and his son James bave a 30 per cent stake, was immediately rejected by the board of Greycoat, a specialist in central London office devel-

The Grevcoat board slammed the offer by Delancey, which built up a stake of nearly 10 per cent over the past few months, as "derisory" and invited other bidders to enter the fray. The chief executive, Peter Thornton, said the company, which owns the NatWest Tower with Mercury Asset Management and Hermes, wanted to reward its long-suffering shareholders with a deal well above its net asset value of around 240p.

He hinted that the board was prepared to recommend an offer in cash or shares from a large property group such as British Land Land Securities or Hammerson. The comments pushed Grevcoat's share price up 31.5p to 200p. Delancey closed down 2.5p to 97.5p.

Mr Thornton revealed that be had planned to put the company up for sale after its final results in May in an attempt to end years of underperfor-mance. However, he said the Delancey offer "significantly undervalues the company's assets and prospects".

The chief executive's view were backed by one of Greycoat's investors, who said that the the Delancey proposition was "not compelling at all". James Ritblat, the managing

director of Delancey, pointed out that the offer was at a 50 per cent premium to Greycoat's price before his company

Profits plunge at | Shortage pushes Morgan Crucible up house prices

MORGAN CRUCIBLE, the in- BY ANDREW VERITY ternational ceramics and carbon group, yesterday posted a 70 per cent plunge in headline profits to £33.2m after being battered by slumping demand

and a string of one-off costs. The group, which provides advanced materials for use in aerospace, transport and electronics, warned in January that profits would be hit by a strike at General Motors and cutbacks at Boeing - two of its biggest customers.

The group was also hit by the knock-on effects of the Asian crisis. US steelmakers, struggling to fight off cheap Asian imports, cut their orders.

In response Morgan is undergoing a big restructuring. ich will see it shed a total of 1,800 jobs worldwide, up to 300 of them in the UK, to achieve savings of £21m a year. It is also disposing of all but a core of shares fell 3p to close at 247p.

eight businesses, focusing on carbon and ceramics. Yesterday Morgan said talks

to sell its speciality chemicals business, by far the biggest chunk of its disposal programme, were nearing completion and named a figure of £174.3m. It also said it planned to buy back 15 per cent of its own shares this year.

Ian Norris, chief executive said the changes would shrink the workforce from 15,500 to 13,600, while annual savings should be enough to return the group to growth.

After marking down the shares by 30 per cent in January, the City reacted mildly to the results. Profit on ordinary activities before exceptionals fell only 19 per cent to £91.1m, at the top end of expectations. The

HOUSE PRICES showed strong signs of recovery in the three months to the end of February, fuelled by a shortage of properties on the market, according to a survey by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS), writes Andrew Verity.

The survey showed 34 per cent of chartered surveyorestate agents reported a rise in prices in their area, while only 7 per cent reported a fall. The figures are more optimistic than at any time since last summer.

Confidence is strongest in London, where a balance of 45 per cent of surveyors reported price increases. As recently as December, the balance was 30 per cent reporting falling prices.

Spring is traditionally the

strongest season for the hous-

ing market. But the institute

said prospects for the market

were brighter even after this

was taken into account.

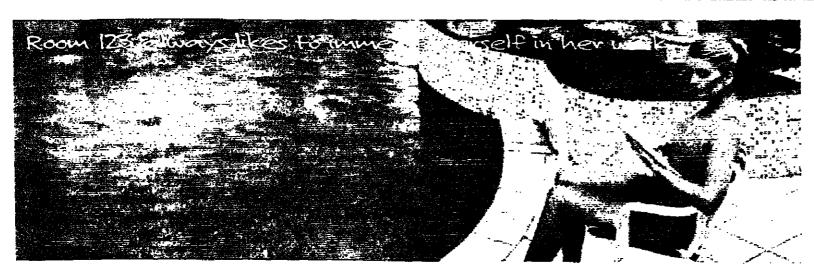
RICS said the renewed optimism is yet to reach regions such as the Midlands and the North, where manufacturing redundancies are knocking buvers' confidence.

Gordon Brown's decision to abolish mortgage interest relief next year will bite harder outside London because it applies only to the first £30,000 of a mortgage. The tax relief represents a larger chunk of the average mortgage outside London, where property values are lower.

But in London, an extra 0.5 per cent stamp duty on prices over £250,000 would take its toll. The stamp duty payable on a £250,000 house has now risen from £2,500 to £6,250 in two years. Ian Perry, housing market spokesman for RICS, said: "It may have some dampening effect at the top end of the housing market particularly in Lon-



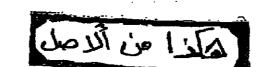
The NatWest Tower in the City is co-owned by Greycoat, the subject of a £211m bid



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THE INDEPENDENT 18/SHARES Tuesday 23 March 1999 Price Chy The P/E Code High Law Stock MAIN MOVERS RISES Alexan Group 196.50 330.0 QU 15 277 7172 177 10540 x 15 44 184 172 56 10540 x 15 44 184 172 8 245.5 1.1 2.1 22.1 1038 29 436.5 2.1 3.4 18.5 2088 29 779.5 7.5 0.7 182 564 25 465.2 x 5.3 3.2 28.8 223 338 465.5 1.45 5.3 18.2 20.8 233 465.5 1.45 5.3 18.2 20.8 233 10 x 80 20 20 20 20 30 10 x 80 2 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 120.01 | 1 1400 950 Stanoic 945 918 Lapaidine 925 392 Lapaidine 928 392 Variation 1 1018 915 Protential 305 190 St.Jus Pt Coll 880 454 Smith & Pro-950 459 Utr. Associa 13.20 -8.55 21.50 12.48 -5.84 ole: Yes. 232.5% **25.5**0 12.30 -5.11 87.0 0.0 7.2 . 1930 93.0 1.0 3145 0.0 47 12.7 1933 263.5 1.0 53 10.3 1148 108.50 11.00 11.50 392,56 Compen Midgs 244.60 24,50 -4.97 210.00 -12.80 182.50 16.00 10.90 -4.96 180 111 Advance
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Internet craze pushes Dixons to new high

DIXONS, the electrical retailer for long in the stock market doghouse, charged to yet another new high. The shares were at one time up 106p; they closed with a 71p gain to 1,414p. In July they touched

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477p.
The stock market Internet. craze has been a major influence in the group's performance. On Friday Schroders the investment house, published calculations which indicated Dixons shares were worth 2,000p.

It said the chain's fledgling Freeserve Internet access service could be worth 1,000p a share with the core retailing business in for 970p.

The shares got the Internet bug when the success of the Freeserve link became apparent just at the time the market was beginning giddily to surf the World Wide Web.

Ahead of the Freeserve arrival, Dixons had recovered its cherished Footsie place and has since consolidated its position. Profits last year emerged at £218.7m. At the interim stage they were lower and progress throughout the

VFG, which hires production equipment to the television industry, is nearly doubling its size through a share issue. It plans to raise £10m by selling shares at around the current price, 52p up

More details, together with figures, are due on Monday. The group has made steady progress; profits last year were £900,000. Since arriving on the market two years ago the shares have been as high as 64p.

rest of the year is not expected to have been particularly exhilarating, with the market consensus around £233m. Footsie ended a rather fea-

tureless session off 10.4 points at 6,152.8. At one time it was up 36.9. Around half the fall could be explained by shares going ex-dividend. Woolwich, Allied

count for dividend payments. offer. Canterbury is the crealso off form but the small cap, helped by takeover bids and the growing realisation of the value lurking on the undercard, was firm, gaining 12.4 to the action. The shares rose

Telecom shares firmed, with Telewest Communicaleader board with a 15.75p gain to 253.25p. Securicor, as stories resurfaced of BT taking full control of the Cellnet mobile phones group, rose 28.5p to 554p. It is suggested that Securicor is asking £3.6bn for its 40 per cent stake. BT rose 13p to 1,012p but Colt Telecom fell 23p to 971p.

Scottish Power was at one time 9.5p higher on expectations that its Scottish Telecom operation would soon be floated. But once it was realised any deal would not occur until towards the end of the year ended 11.5p lower at 549.5p. agement, led by chief execu-British Energy brightened tive John Sword.

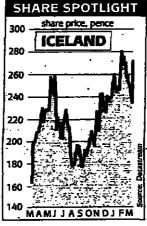


31p to 548.5p after Warburg Dillon Read and Merrill Lynch took a shine to the group.

Bass, the brewing and hotel group, failed to respond to Morgan Stanley enthusiasm. The shares fell 9p to 910.5p although the investment house raised its target price to 995p from 900p

Rentokii Initial hardened 10p to 385.5p on BT Alex Brown support, and EMI fell 9p to 427.5p following meetings with analysts. Goldman Sachs told its clients that profits of the showbiz group could emerge at the lower end of market estimates. The securities house was said to be reviewing its own two-year estimates of

£208m and £216m. Takeover action on the market undercard underlined the belief that corporate activity remains strong. Much of the latest action occurred in two bombed out sectors - healthcare and property. Westminster Healthcare jumped 115p



Domecq and Pearson were to 300p as Canterbury Healthamong those lowered to ac- care produced a 311p a share The mid cap index was ation of Dr Chai Patel, the founder of the Court

Cavendish healthcare group. On the property pitch it was Greycoat at the centre of 31.5p to 200p as Delancey Estates, related to George Soros, resignations at Corporate Sermounted a hostile share extions leading the Footsie change strike. It was quickly rejected. Delancey has 11 per cent of Greycoat, which has in the past attracted the attention, but so far no suggestion of corporate action, of Wates City of London Properties.

Chesterfield Properties, which has caught the predatory interest of Quintain Estates & Development, rose 31.5p to 4216.5p. At one time

the shares were up 60p. Hall Engineering held at 140p, although there were signs that TT, the conglomerate, may increase its 97p a share hostile offer. A rival bid the appeal faded and the price is expected from Hall's man-

Newsquest links with rivals to give local news on the Net NEWSQUEST, the regional By PETER THAL LARSEN

newspaper publisher, is poised to join forces with two of its largest rivals to launch an Internet site that brings togethinformation from all over the ond-hand cars.

Regent Inns is likely to be

under the weather today. After

the market closed the pubs

chain said its merger talks

with SFL which last week ap-

peared to be going well, had been called off. The shares

were little changed at 172.5p.

was suspended at 44.5p. It is

buying a leisure company for

Eurocopy, the office equip-

Premier Oil firmed 1.5p to

ment group, climbed 5.25p to 25.25p on reports of a venture

15.25p on takeover specula-

tion. Tim Eggar, the former

Tory minister who heads

Monument Oil & Gas, be-

lieves industry restructuring

Monument shares shaded to

43.50. The rest of the oil sec-

tor was little changed ahead

of today's Opec meeting,

which is not expected to have

much impact on the market.

tailer, was in fine form, gaining

25p to 275p. Figures are due

today. About £55m is expected

against £43.5m. SG Securities

COX INSURANCE enjoyed

strong enough to prevent the shares falling 2.5p to

Towards the close a

through at 150p, with one

Cox has had a dismal

They have been down to

turnover put at 172,000

group usually attracts.

shares, was more than the

Scotia firmed 11p to 106.5p

after the US Food and Drug

Administration awarded "fast

track" status to its Foscan

cancer drug. Proteus In-

ternational rose a further

4.5p to 49.5p following invest-

ment meetings. However No-

mura International cut its

stake to 8.9 per cent, selling

Victoria, a carpets group

Theo Fermell paid the price

planning a £3m property sale

piled on 10p to 90p. The com-

24.5p. Reports of boardroom

shares down to 73.5p, off 11p.

shares came to life. Anglesey

Mining rose 1p to 4.5p and

Ennex International added

1.25p to 10p after its zinc

prospect in Kazakhstan was

said to have a capacity of

100,000 tonnes a year. Devel-

oping the mine and zinc re-

Business directory group

finery would cost around

Scoot.com rose 4.25p to 29.5p

following its link with Energis,

SEAQ TRADES: 86,421

down 15p at 1,630p.

£170m.

Some of the smaller mining

137,000 shares.

number of deals went

trade booked at 152p.

time, with the shares

tumbling from 520p.

a late flurry, but it was not

rates the shares a buy.

Iceland, the frozen food re-

is "inevitable and desirable"

capitalist bid from Italy.

South Country Homes

The site, to be called This is Britain, is designed to become a so-called "portal", offering access to regional news drawn from the papers published by Newsquest, Trinity and Associated Newspapers.

managing director, said the site would bring together a large audience of Web surfers interested in local news, allowing it to sell advertising and sign supply deals with other popular suppliers such as Yahoo! and Microsoft's MSN. The joint venture can offer almost national coverage of

local news," he said. The site will allow Newsquest to boost its Internet revenues further. The group, formed three years ago when it bought Reed Elsevier's regional newspaper operations, has already put many of its pa-

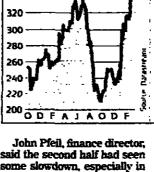
pers online under the the "This is..." banner, It has also launched an auction site and er regional news and sites listing property and sec-

> Sales are still small, with Newsquest making revenues of 10.5m in the year to last December. However, these are expected to grow exponentially this year, rising to between £2m and £3m. Given the multiples being attached to Internet companies, Newsquest's business would be worth a substantial amount if it was valued on a stand-alone basis.

"The Internet demonstrates you must have partners," said Jim Brown, Newsquest's chairman. "It's running at such a speed that if you're not right up there at the front you're not going to get in."

He was speaking as Newsquest shrugged off fears of a slowdown in regional advertising revenues to post pretax profits of £81.4m, up 13 per cent on an underlying basis on the previous year. Underlying sales were up 5.8 per cent.

NEWSQUEST: AT A GLANCE Trading record 1997 1998 Turnover (£m) 286 00 Profit for the year (£m) -1.7411.70 Earnings per share (p) Dividends per share (p) Turnover breakdown



December. Advertising revenues grew by 3.5 per cent,

both measures were showing better growth rates for the first few months of the new year. Newsquest shares were marked down on the figures. rising more than 60 per cent in the past six months.

"It's a pretty bullish statement, which perhaps signals a return to health for the industry, which has been in terminal circulation decline for years." said Sutherlands analyst Angela Maxwell.

Profit growth in 1998 was boosted by a 60 per cent drop in interest payments to £20.4m as Newsquest continued to pay down its debt load. The company plans to carry on reducing its debt, although borrowings may rise if it makes a successful bid for Portsmouth & Sunderland, the rival publisher. Three bidders have asked the Monopolies and Mergers Commission to consider their interest in P&S. and a ruling is expected in May

The improved outlook for regional advertising yesterday prompted analysis to upgrade their profit forecasts to about £75m for the current year. With the shares now trading on a forward earnings multiple of just

New vaccine boosts Monument looks to spend Peptide profit hopes £250m on oil acquisition

PEPTIDE THERAPEUTICS, the alties and milestone payments drug development company, yesterday said it could post its first profits within three years, thanks to a vaccine against yellow fever, writes Francesco Guerrera. The Cambridge company plans to submit the product to US regulators next year, with approval in 2001.

John Brown, chief executive. said the vaccine, developed with Medeva, could generate high sales. The US market for yellow fever vaccines is estimated at \$35m (£21.5m) a year. The day's volume, with

Peptide reported a 17 per cent rise in 1998 pre-tax losses to £7.5m; partly due to the \$20m acquisition of Oravax, a US vaccine company. Dr Brown said the purchase, to be completed next month, added several vaccines to the pipeline, including the yellow fever compound. The development of Oravax's vaccines could result in up to \$60m in roy-

in the next few years. But the real hope is a revolutionary vaccine against all allergies, now in second-phase trials. The drug, developed with SmithKline Beecham, could give Peptide access to a new multibillion pound market. If trials succeed Peptide would receive up to £23m in milestones and a small percentage of sales.

The rest of the pipeline, including vaccines for hayfever and travellers' diarrhoea, is promising. The one downside is Peptide's cash resources. A fortnight ago the company raised £20.6m through a rights issue to add to its £9.8m cash balances. With cash burn of some £12m a year, this might not be enough to last until the first profits arrive. But with the shares, down Ip to 102.5p yesterday well below their 12-month peak, Peptide is worth holding.

MONUMENT OIL & GAS, the ex- BY FRANCESCO GUERRERA

ploration company is looking to spend its £250m war chest on acquisitions in an effort to boost its critical mass and revive its flagging share price.

The chairman, Tony Craven West, said the recent slump in the oil price would provide Monument with plenty of opportunities for corporate action. The company could take over one of "s smaller rivals, which were hit hard last year when Brent prices collapsed to a 13year low.

The chairman said that any target was likely to be outside the UK, probably in the US, with assets in fast-growing oil-producing areas such as Pakistan. If a deal did not materialise, Monument could forge joint The chief executive, Tim

Eggar, a former energy minister in the last Conservative



Tony Craven West: Plenty of opportunities

government, said the company was talking to several rivals, but was not in formal negotiations with any potential target.

The dramatic effect of the fall in the crude price on oil companies was highlighted by Monument's 1998 results. The

company reported a 60 per cent fall in pre-tax profits to £7.8m on turnover down 8.7 per cent to £81.3m. The sharp fall forced the company to scrap its dividend.

City analysts said that Monument's saving grace was its Liverpool Bay gas field. The operations offer Monument a constant stream of carnings, as gas prices are much more stable than oil prices because they are linked to long-term contracts.

One analyst said that Liverpool Bay, acted as an "hedge against the oil price downside" He added that Monument was well placed to take advantage of the current oil price rebound thanks to its large exposure to the lucrative Caspian region.

He advised buying the shares, down 0.5p to 43.5p yesterday, as they are trading at a 20 per cent discount to Monument's net asset value of 55p.

A mutual withdrawal

pany is capitalised at around THE PRESSURE group Save Our Building Societies (SOBS) has withdrawn its High Court for a late Friday evening profaction against Birmingham its warning tumbling 8p to Midshires Building Society, thereby removing the last obstacle to the takeover of the muvices, already devastated by a tual by the very much profits warning pushed the demutualised Halifax plc. Bob Goodall, co-ordinator of

the pro-mutual SOBS, said: "I recognise I have a personal difficulty in giving up. However, hard as it is, I have to let Midshires go." Mr Goodall faced personal

bankruptcy because of legal fees if he lost the case. "It was too much of a risk to save one. 69 others which may need to be campaigned for at some time in the future," he said, bravely.

Roll of thunder

SEAQ VOLUME: 932.6 million DAVID KOMANSKY, chief ex-GILTS INDEX: 115.97 -0.13 ecutive officer at Merrill Lynch, has circulated a memo to all

PEOPLE AND **BUSINESS** By John

WILLCOCK Herd" investment bank, warn-

article in Forbes magazine. other top bods at Merrill gave in- aims to change all that. terviews for the article on the investment banking sector, but he ernment (currently £5m) is now dissociates himself from the being reduced, so we need to be conclusions of the piece.

All very confusing. Apparently Merrill is sensitive to the bers do everything from delivsuggestion that it might be contemplating a link-up with another of the American "bulge building society when there are bracket" investment banks, such as JP Morgan or a post-

Video volunteer Diana, Princess of Wales.

Intriguingly, the WRVS in-A FORMER long-time chief ex-cludes 18,000 men. employees of the "Thundering next head of the Women's Royal 1974, two years after the com

Voluntary Service (WRVS). You ing them about an upcoming may only have a hazy idea of became joint managing director. what the WRVS does, but its Mr Komansky says he and new chairman, Tina Tietjen, "Our grant from the Gov-

self-sustaining," says Ms Tietjen.

ering meals on wheels to the elderly to providing disaster relief (they helped with over 130 disasters last year alone). The WRVS also organised the reflowers left over in Kensington Gardens following the death of

ecutive of Video Arts, the training film company co-owned by

John Cleese, is to become the

This is all a long way from Ms today. He writes about the information age, and how vital it is to break down the use of data

E-mail: j.willcock@indcpen-

working as a training adviser to tise, Application". the Industrial Society, and was ing videos on staff training.

author of the TV series Yes acronym, they were very keen Minister. She joined the com- to be a "learning organisation, pany full time in 1978 and fol- which is a continual learning lowing an MBO in 1989 she process." And how did she find John Cleese to work with? "Very

stimulating," came the diplomatic reply.

New meaning

YOU MAY have assumed IKEA was a Scandinavian furniture chain with a huge shop just off the North Circular in London. In fact, according to the Industri- the airports operator and a al Society, IKEA stands for a vital moval of the lorryloads of technique that helps managers to avoid drowning in data. Andrew Forrest has written

learning organisation, for the including Cheshire Oaks at

pany was founded. She was then formation, Knowledge, Exper-

Which all comes as news to consulted on its ground-break- IKEA, the stores group. A spokeswoman said yesterday The company was the brain- that while they had not heard child of Anthony Jay, the co- of the use of the name as an

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BAA move

DUTY-FREE is on the way out on 1 July, courtesy of the EU. but that doesn't worry Ronnie Waddell, head of BAA's £400m European duty-free operations.

Mr Waddell has just been appointed managing director of retail at BAA McArthurGlen (BMG), a joint venture between group of investors, which develops giant designer shopping

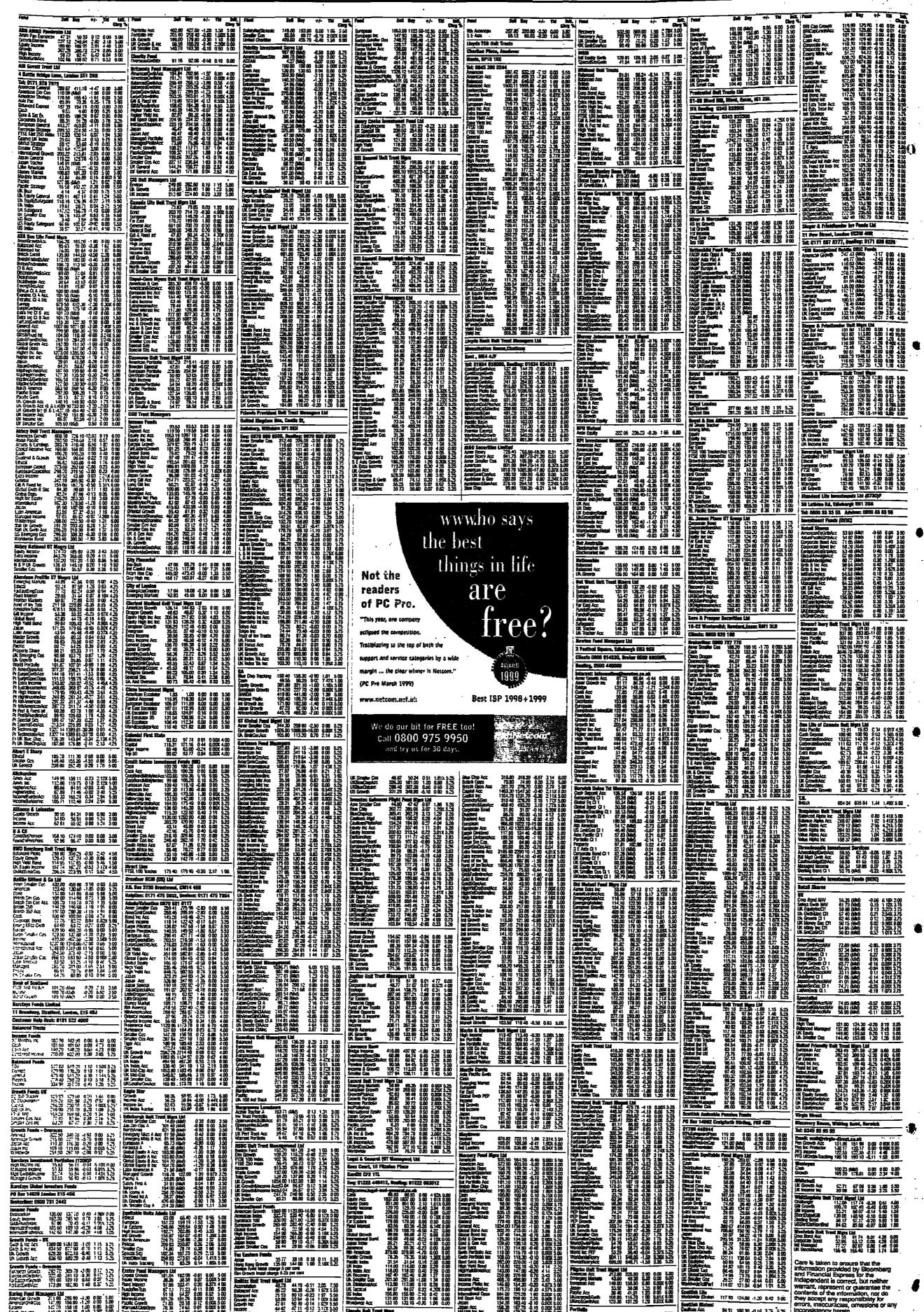
The company builds large rea book. Fifty ways towards a tail outlets and has seven so far, society, which is published Chester and Great Western in

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gyder Cup: The Jam

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as the first one of Tong Jacklin to the discount was the Americans Mismission propelled into an uc

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Despite the emergence, over the Edecade or so, of many high class agers, such as Jose Olerabal Managamene, Lee Westwood at Darren Clarke - although only lizzbai has claimed a major purpossing flurope's rectories 10ak Hall in 1905 and two years Ze in Spain stall featured the old and prominently Faldo, crucially, on the last three holes, against Cur a Strange to with a pount forum program and then muded the rootele estrond to good effect at laker

This September at the Country the Brooking a will be different blesteros, his body ravaged by in-his, showed at Oak Hill that his ageal short game was no longer aughte had him out of trouble. He is not made a cut this year, while ido has made just one for the Englishman, it is his

Ming that has gone, followed by a tenuation in the rest of his game.

Leafl desperately wants to extend

a hider Cup record of 11 appear. but you would not put the migage on it. But neither would aput the mortgage on hum not being a seventh major. Hosnam's back, suffering not spinon years of gott but the ball-agothay as a youngster, means he amot physically put in the hours of

II. My instincts, derived as their ise from many yours, of largely bacturals interesting to their large would put up a trems indicate bought the bind and buildings followed them in the end, and in that again to be a supplied to be a supplied buildings. pulpel trapelli trata rette franti batte. agabet on the outerome

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SPORT

Ryder Cup: Two of the greatest names in European golf - Faldo and Ballesteros - could miss out at Brookline

'James ready to put accent on youth

in Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida

THE VIEW from the inductee's chamber, an earie high in the tower at the World Golf Hall of Fame here, stretches as far as the nearby town of St Augustine, reputed to be the oldest settlement in America. It takes in a golf course named the Squire and the Slammer, which was designed with help from two of the game's great names, Gene Sarazen and Sam Snead, and includes the plush offices of the PGA Tour's television production comany. The huge income provided by the Tour is what allows the past to

Until the weekend, 72 crystal cones hung from the ceiling of the inner sanctum of the Hall of Fame. After yesterday's induction ceremony, three more have been added with the images and signatures of the late Lloyd Mangrum, the 1946 US Open champion, Arry Alcott, winner of a US Women's Open and three Dinah Shore tournaments, and Seve Ballesteros.

This was not an occasion to dwell on the current performances of the Spaniard but to revel in his past glories. Three victories in the Open Championship and two at the US Masters arrived in outrageous style and accompanied with rare charisma. Ballesteros, 42 next month, was the European version of Arnold Palmer. "If people compare me to him, that's a great honour," said Seve. "Arnold Palmer did a lot for the game of golf, not only in America but all over the world."

Where Ballesteros led, four others – all, remarkably, born within a year of each other - followed Seve was the first since Tony Jacklin to believe he could beat the Americans on American soil and once he did, Nick Faldo, Sandy Lyle, Bernhard Langer and Ian Woosnam knew they could, too. Individual success was matched by victories in the Ryder Cup, which from the mid-1980s has been propelled into an occasion of wider significance than

Ballesteros played on eight teams once the Continental Europeans were brought in to bolster the efforts of those from Great Britain and Ireland who had previously gone through the biennial charade that the match was a competitive contest. Seve's on-course zeal was kindled by Jacklin in his years as captain and continued to burn, almost out of control, when the Spaniard took over the non-playing captain's role at Valderrama 18 months ago.

Despite the emergence, over the last decade or so, of many high class players, such as Jose Olazabal, Colin Montgomerie, Lee Westwood and Darren Clarke – although only Olazabal has claimed a major championship – Europe's victories at Oak Hill in 1995 and two years later in Spain still featured the old guard prominently. Faldo, crucially, won the last three holes against Curtis Strange to win a point four years ago, and then guided the rookie Westwood to good effect at Valder-

This September at the Country Club of Brookline it will be different. Ballesteros, his body ravaged by injuries, showed at Oak Hill that his magical short game was no longer enough to bail him out of trouble. He has not made a cut this year, while Faldo has made just one.

For the Englishman, it is his putting that has gone, followed by a deterioration in the rest of his game. He still desperately wants to extend his Ryder Cup record of 11 appearances, but you would not put the mortgage on it. But neither would you put the mortgage on him not

winning a seventh major Woosnam's back, suffering not only from years of golf but the baiing of hay as a youngster, means he



JOHN BICKERTON

can still produce, as with his 28 for a "name" without proof that they are

practice that Faldo does. But when

the muse is with him, the Welshman

nine holes at the Forest of Arden last

year and in winning the 1997 Volvo

PGA Championship. Perhaps the

safest bet is Langer who seems to

be fit again and has started the year

well. Hit by injury in '96 and '98, he

showed he is still a winner in 1997

But, suddenly, among those ex-

pected to make Mark James's Eu-

ropean team in September will be

Westwood, Clarke and Thomas

Bjorn, all of whom only played at

by claiming four victories.

What James will not do is give one

out them.

2 Tiger Woods

RYDER CUP STANDINGS

older players don't make it I know

.967.500pts

.802.500

or both of his wild-card selections to

performing well. Indeed, his instinct

will be to turn to those who finish

11th and 12th on the points table. I

do not like mentioning specific

names, but those (Faldo and Balles-

teros) are two of the greatest names

that Europe has ever seen. A team

EUROPE (Eng unless stated)

1 Colin Montgomerie (Sco) ..5,890pts 2 Miguel Angel Jimenez (Sp)3,787



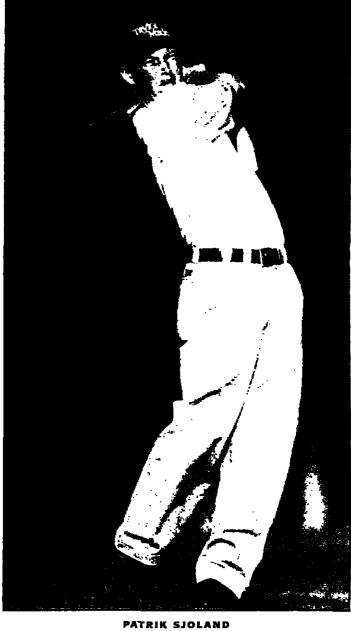
Age 29. Midlander who has started his third year on the European tour in fine style, already securing his card for next year and losing a play-off for the Portuguese Open to Van Phillips. Given a book by his wife in the winter called "Face the fear – and bit anyway" which has changed his mental approach. Won five mini-tour events out of 10 in seven weeks in Florida during the winter. Ryder Cup maybe a goal too high but currently 13th on the qualifying table.

Age 27. Winner of just one European tour title, the Italian Open list year, but has shown in the course. Unorthodox swing but one that himself to be a gritty opponent in the head-to-head version of the game in the World long iron shots. Victory in home town of Malagar which has changed his mental approach. Won five mini-tour events ago was his filth on tour, including his chip-in win at the Lancöme at Wentworth wedge shots from 100 yards, and on and a currently 13th on the qualifying table.

with them playing well is obviously through are very different to the going to be better than a team withyoung players coming through 15 years ago. They have a lot more ex-"We have a lot of young talent perience and are more capable of coming through. If some of the dealing with the type of problems the Ryder Cup will pose. Within rea-

we will have others who are playing son I wouldn't be afraid of having a well and desperate to prove themnumber of rookies in the team. I'll FOR THREE days, all anyone want- BY DOUG FERGUSON selves in the arena. I think these playing rather than how many days the young players coming Ryder Cups they've played in." It is early days on the qualifying table. There have been 15 events

with 23 to come, including the bigmajors. Miguel Angel Jimenez, who has won twice in the last



Herron swoops to land Invitational

be looking more at how they are ed to know about Tim Herron was in Orlando, Florida what he had for lunch and why they called him Lumpy. On Sunday, the his eagle putt. "I can't hang my head, American showed his game was I feel like I played well," Lehman worth talking about, too.

Herron won the Bay Hill Invitamoney tournaments and all four tional with a birdie on the second play-off hole against Tom Lehman, giving the 29-year-old from Min-

said. "It feels good to be nervous again. Last week at Honda, I finished last. This was a lot more fun."

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Davis Love III can blame his putter for finishing one stroke out of the

France unable to cope with the bulldozer effect

ALL MY instincts, derived as they are from many years of largely inaccurate guesswork, told me that France would put up a tremendous performance at Twickenham. I still thought the England buildozer would crush them in the end, and for that reason refrained from placing a bet on the outcome.

As things turned out, the bulldozer crushed them more or less from the beginning while the French performance was at least three courses short of a four-course

Admittedly, luck did not go entirely their way. Indeed, I began by thinking that Colin Hawke, the New Zealand referee, was being over-severe with them. But, when Hawke had to go off injured at the



WATKINS

end of the first half, to be replaced by Jim Fleming of Scotland, the latter proved to be equally if not more exigent, awarding England four penalties, all kicked by Jonny best France could muster Philippe better centre at 33 than his rivals team of the season) fall to France, Wilkinson, to Hawke's three, at Bernat-Salles, for instance, would are or were at 23), introduce another England will still be coming to Wen-

which Wilkinson had been equally The French have never been

candidates for canonisation, particularly in their front five. On this occasion, however, the penalties were awarded for what I should call largely technical offences, brought forward cannot rest a hand on the ground while trying to secure the ball without risking a penalty, the game has become absurd.

Certainly, England deserved the win. But I cannot believe that the XV who took the field initially on Saturday, even allowing for those un-

which Xavier Garbajosa just missed inside him; and at last shift Wilkin-through Bernat-Salles' fractionally son to outside half. My guess, howgreater pace.

The problems of Clive Woodward, the England coach, are fewer the injured David Rees. than those of Jean-Claude Skrela and Pierre Villepreux on the about more by carelessness or French side. But they are not quite foolishness than by evil intent. If a yet the problems of success. It did not require more than a degree of France in Paris, while Wales beat modest competence on the part of the English backs to increase the 11 April, Scotland and England will 21 points, depending on how many tries were scored and converted.

For the Welsh match, I should urday, even allowing for those un-available through injury, were the maligned Jeremy Guscott (still a 27. Even if Scotland (undoubtedly the

almost certainly have scored the try Sale player, Barrie-Jon Mather, ever, is that he will play safe and bring in Tony Underwood alone for

Who would have thought that Scotland, 50-1 at the start of the Five Nations, would still be in with a chance of winning it? If they beat England score by between five and each have won three matches. The outcome of the championship will depend on points difference, as it has done since 1993. England have a marteam of the season) fall to France,

Graham Henry, the Welsh coach, now has a settled side. It will be surprising if he makes any changes from those who put up 60 points

My own instinct, I must confess. would be to bring in David Young at tight head and have John Davies among the substitutes. This would against England I should go for as much experience as I could gather.

against Italy,

Moreover, one of the most important changes to the game, so tactical substitutions. Immensely

bley in search of the Grand Slam. puff, can be put on the field for 70. 60 or even 40 minutes.

By the same reasoning, I hope Henry picks an entire reserve front row, as he did against France but not against Italy, and also comes up with an adequate kicking substitute for Neil Jenkins, should that old campaigner have to go off injured.

I feel a faint sense of paternity be tough on Ben Evans, I know, but about the present Welsh side because I urged Henry to do what he has done: acquire a decent loosehead prop, who appears in the form of Peter Rogers, and harness far neither fully exploited nor ade- the size and energy of the Quinnell quately analysed, is the allowing of brothers. They, together with the other five, should certainly give the strong practitioners such as Young England eight at Wembley a hardand Davies, who are nevertheless er time than they received from the getting on a bit and running out of French at Twickenham,

Valderrama. The experience will _559,500 come from Olazabal, Montgomerie 4 Lee Westwood. ...3.412 4 Davis Love III seven months, and Patrick Sjoland, nesota his third victory in four years play-off on 275. One day after he or in 5 Swen Strawer (Ger) ... who performed well at the World on the PGA Tour: made eight birdie putts, Love came int's and, possibly, Per-Ulrik Johansson, .532.500 Ap the who has two appearances behind Matchplay in San Diego, have re-Herron, who closed with an evenup empty in his bid to win Arnold 7 Robert Karlsson (Swe) .485.000 7.322 7 Jeff Maggert... ceived late invitations to the US par 72 for 274, earned \$450,000 Palmer's tournament for the first 8 David Howell (£269,000). After he and Lehman Masters which will boost their time after three good chances. He James, who played seven Ryder 476.250 9 Fred Couples. tion made pars on the first play-off hole. Cups, is ready for the transition. "A missed four-foot birdie putts on 10 Steve Stricker .412.500 10 Patrik Sjoland (Swe) .2.122 the 18th, Herron played the 511-yard Sven Struver, Alex Cejka, Robert three of the first four holes, missed number of our top players have 16th hole to perfection - a booming Karlsson, Andrew Coltart and David trial an eight-footer at the 16th and then turned 40 and it may well be time for ..1,978 12 Hal Sutton .371.250 drive down the fairway and a bold Howell, who won against a good field missed a 10-foot par putt at the 17th. 13 Fred Fank . some of them to miss a Ryder Cup," 13 John Bickerton... _1.805 ..370.000 14 Bernhard Langer (Ger) 15 Paul McGinley (Irl)1,756 14 Billy Mayfair in Dubai last month, all have their approach over the water to about 10 Love had a 30-foot birdie on the last he said. "You can never tell because ...335.417 work cut out to remain in the top 10. feet. Lehman hit into the bunker for hole that slid by on the right. the people we are thinking about are 16 Phil Mickels .335.000 16 Pierre Fulke (Swe) the second time in less than an hour. ..1.570 But all have won on tour and are ca-Robert Damron, who grew up at incredibly talented and have been at 17 Pani Laurie (Sco) ... 17 Lee Janzen . .297.50 pable of doing so again. They will He blasted through the fairway into Bay Hill, holed a 35-foot birdie putt aiy" the top for a very long time and are 18 José Maria Olazabai (Sp)1,550 286.214 have to. James's team may hold the rough, hit over the green and :Ted on the last hole for a 67 that left him very capable of playing good golf. 19 Bob Estes . .270.000 19 Van Phillips1,457 The odd one of them will miss but some new names, but they will all be 1 of made a 15-foot par putt from the alone in fourth with 276. 20 Per-Utrik Johansson (Swe) ...1,313 20 Andrew Magee .264.167 fringe even before Herron lined up cannot physically put in the hours of I'm sure all of them won't."

Only the intrepid to follow Captain

IT SEEMS almost indecent, just five days after the Gold Cup, that it is already time to consider a race which will take barely two minutes to run and in which, unless something goes very badly wrong, your money will not leave the ground even once. But there it is, the Lincoln Handicap, trying as usual to grab a little attention between Cheltenham and the Grand National meeting, and no doubt luring punters in for a bet which they will spend the rest of the Flat season chasing.

The Lincoln, to put it mildly, is not much of a race for favourites, which is only to be expected when many of the runners have not seen a racecourse for at least four months

This year, though, backers who put their faith in the likely market leader will at least have one of the country's finest trainers of handicappers on their side. Jeremy Glover has won three Cambridgeshires in the last 10 years, and in Captain Scott, he seems to have a Lincoln runner with everything that any punter could

There is good recent form, in the valuable Lincoln Trial Handicap at Wolverhampton 10 days ago, which Captain Scott won by two lengths. Glover's runner also prefers it didn't work out because he

By GREG WOOD

good ground, which seems likely according to the forecasters. and he is that straight-mile classic, a horse who might want 10 furlongs on a round course, but finds a demanding straight eight ideal.

"I thought that a mile at Wolverhampton might be a bit sharp for him." Glover said yesterday, "and I think he's best over a mile and a quarter. But early in the season when they're fresh, they're often a little bit sharper. When he got around the turn it took him about a furlong and a half to really stretch, but once he did, he

RICHARD EDMONDSON Nap: Master Rastus (Uttoxeter 3.50) NB: Norlandic (Exeter 3.00)

was going away. A dead straight mile will be an advantage to him, because they've got to

The run on the all-weather was Captain Scott's first outing since July 1998, when he was sixth in the John Smith's (Magnet) Cup at York. "We were looking at the Magnet Cup and then the Cambridgeshire, but



with 9st 10lb ."

the National."

The participation of Rough

Quest, the winner of the race

three years ago, depends on his

performance in the Dou-

bleprint Handicap Chase at

Newbury on Saturday. "We are

expecting a good run," Terry

Casey, his trainer, said yester-

track and it should tell us

whether to go to Aintree."

Silver Charm wins at Santa Anita last month on his way to Sunday's Dubai World Cup

wasn't quite right," Glover says. "But when he came back in after his long break, he was so well that we could start looking for races for him. We may as

well strike while the iron's hot." One imponderable, as ever is the possible effect of the draw. As last year, starting-stalls positions will be determined by the runners' connections. When their horse's name is pulled out of the hat, they will take it in turns to choose a box.

Glover will decide where he wants to be after walking the course on Thursday morning, although if Captain Scott's name is one of the last out of the hat, there is no guarantee that he will get his wish.

It is an uncertainty which makes the 8-1 against Captain Scott easy to resist until his draw is certain, although if he is one of the first out, and seems to be with the pacey horses, he could easily start at

much shorter odds.

At least he is guaranteed a race on Saturday, since he was among the top 24 in the weights when 55 horses were declared yesterday. The final declaration stage also takes place on Thursday, both to facilitate the draw, and to allow another 24 horses to contest the Spring Mile consolation race on Friday afternoon.

Right Wing, who finished third last year, is also guaranteed a place, but Further Outlook, another leading figure in the ante-post market, needs two to scratch between now and Thursday morning to get in.

David Nicholls, Further Outlook's trainer, who also hopes to saddle Royal Result, said yesterday: "Both horses are well. We've done as much as we can with them despite the wet weather which held us up a bit.

"I'd certainly prefer to see

Further Outlook get into the Charm Lincoln rather than go in the other race [the Spring Mile]

attracts News yesterday on the second leg of the Spring Double, SILVER CHARM, who beat the Grand National, con-Swain in last year's Dubai cerned Call It A Day, who fin-World Cup, is clear favourite ished second to Young Kenny in the Midlands National at with all the leading bookmak-Uttoxeter on Saturday. "We ing firms to inflict defeat on the were very pleased with him, Derby winner, High-Rise, who he ran a smashing race," is now a member of the Godol-David Nicholson, his trainer, phin operation, in this year's resaid. "He's come out of the newal on Sunday. race Al and is on course for

Odds of 2-1 are the best on offer against Bob Baffert's charge who will face four members of the Godolphin squad, including Central Park who was backed yesterday from 40-1 to 16-1 with William Hill.

■ Cheltenham Gold Cup flop Dorans Pride may run on the Flat at the Curragh this weekday. Newbury is a nice, flat end as preparation for next month's Heineken Gold Cup at

Normanange: Won twice in November 1897 for previous trainer Gerdie Grissell. Not seen again until this February, running well on return but 25 lengths behind Seymourswift Segamen: Won twice at around 2m4t on good ground in the summer. Lost his form late in 1998, but did not do too badly on latest (down 4b since). Now aged 13 though Coolines: Little form to recommend him of late, besten 20 lengths when second to

Shimba Hills at Teuriton (2m31, firm) in October (Dropped 128) since Silent Gunst: First nu nurder rules (falled to complete in point-to-points) for 15 months and did quite well 8 days ago, but chance here apparently scuppered by 14th out of VERDICT: There are plenty of question marks here, including the lingering doubt that the other one to catch they eye being Seymourswift.

4.00 ROBERT WEBB TRAVEL OPEN HUNTER CHASE (CLASS H) £2,500 added 3m 2f Penzity Value £1,954

	02171-	TOSKANO (302) (D) (Berishre Components) D Williams 7 (2.6Miss V Roberts (5)
	3F/P-1	APPLE JOHN (19) (A Whiting) A Winterg to 23
		COMEDY GAYLE (12) IMs S Wilcock Ms S Wilcock 12 12 3 Mr / Widdicombe (5)
	0/2-31	MUNTAF (8) (\$ T Lews) S Lews 8 123 Mr C R Wester (7)
	63149-	RAGTIME BOY (336) (C) (Mrs J Carle) Mrs S Martin 11 12 3
	221-82	YOUNG BRAVE (16P) (D) (D Young) Miss L Alner 13 12 3
	31/3-P	DIAMOND FORT (39) (D) (Mrs R E Stocks) J McConnoche 14 11 12 Mr S Stronge (3)
	4P-711	HENRY BRUCE (16P) (Miss T McCurrich) Miss T McCurrich 7 ft 12.Mr D Mansell (?) B
	216-43	SAINT JOSEPH (19) (B R J Young) Mess S Young 9 to 12Miles S Young (7)
١.	253-22	SPECTACULAR STAR (177) (D Branton) Mrs K Heard 10 11 12
ı	23PP/6	DUCHESS OF TUBBER (8) (R Linne) R Linne II 11 7
		= 11 decisred -

BETTING: 7-2 Heavy Bruce, 4-1 Comedy Gayle, 9-2 Toslamo, 11-2 Muntall, 8-1 Apple John, Young Breve, Spectacular Star, 20-1 officers 1998: Sorrel HB 11 71 7 Mr L Jefford (7) 6-4 tax (Mrs C Egalton) 8 ren

FORM GUIDE

Toskano: Recorded hat-trick in handicap chases (fair form) at 3m on sound surface last May. Just a 7yo, and has potential as he ambarks on career in hunter chases Applie John: Very lightly-raced 10yo, who collared Ardstown close home in hunter chase

Apple Johns Very lightly-reced TDyo, who collered Adstorm close home in hunter chase at Taunton (3m, heavy) earlier in month. Something to find on form Coanedy Gayter Just headed by Stiph Time and tooked beaten when making mistake at the last at Wincanton (3m1), soft) on reappearance. Leading contender Muntalli. 70-1, headed Just Ben at the last and went on to beat him 4 lengths at Taunton (3m, soft) 8 days ago. Unseposed at this trip and chance if he comes on for that win Ragitine Boy: Poor wireing chaser last term and unflighty to take this on that form Young Brave: 13yo stayer, 10-11 when winning 5-runner hunter chase at Fontwell (3m2); firm) in May 1998. Placed in two points this term. Cannot be ruled out Diamond Fort: Now a 14yo and carnot be fancied on test two appearances Hearry Bruce: In line torm in points this year, wrining three out of three, and would be concerned in the finish if reproducing that form on return to racing under rules Setra Joseph: Fair pointer/hunter chase. This may be an insufficient test of stamina Spectacular Start: Pitch of 7 finishers in hunter chase over C&D lest May. Needs to improve on that, and has been second both starts in points this year.

Duchess of Tubber: Winning pointer, 50-1, 171/: lengths sixth of 8 to Muntafi at Taunton lest week indicates that she has a lot to find VERDICT: Henry Bruce has to be feared with his good sequence in points this season, but he will find TOSIKANO hard to bear it the latter begins this season as he firshed the last; findess is something of a wory for Tosikano, however, as, unlike all but one of his rivate, he has not had a run this term. Murstaff is a possible improver and Comedy Gayte has solid form in these contests, including from his reappearance second.

Z	1.30	ROBERT WEBB TRAVEL HANDICAP HURDLE) £3,500 added 2m 1f 110yds Penelty Value	E (CLAS! £2.828
1		COLORFUL AMBITION (580) (D) (F J Sainsbury) Mrs M Jones 9 17 12	
ż	330 53	NORTHERN DRUMS (8) (U) (8F) (R Peske) M Pipe 6 71 10	A (DOME)
3	6276	RECH LIFE (307) (D) (8 P Jones) R Baker 9 ft 6	V Stocker
4	3364/1	POT BLACK LIK (14) (CD) (Pot Black) P Hobbs 8 11 2	_R Widger (5
5	-31P60	ONE-ORNALLEE (103) (D.A. Smith) P. Bowen 6 10 T3	W Mersto
6	15008	GLOWING PATH (50) (CD) (P Stade) R Hodges 9 to TI	R Dummond
7	62601	LAFFAH (USA) (8) (0) (Richard Green Paintings) M Pipe 4 to 10 (Sept	_APMcCc
8	350645	STORM TIGER (20) (W R Partnership) S Mellor 8 10 8	
9	33534	HIGH LOW (USA) (8) (D) (Jones) I Jones 1: 10 6	J Mogland (7
10	56-00	SLIPSTREAM STAR (26) (Mrs S Telreri) N Twiston-Davies 5 10 0	C Mande
Ħ	8005	ALIABAD (36) (Jack Brown Ltd) P Murphy 4 10 0	. A Faran
		-11 declared -	
		- 11 Oddarsa -	

Minimum veight 10st. Two handbap waght Alabad 9s 13b. BETTMC: 3-2 Latlah, 3-1 Pol Black Uk, 9-2 Northern Drusss, 10-1 High Low, 11-1 Glowing Path, 14-1 Storm 19st, 14-1 Rich Life, 16-1 others 1896: Va Usu 10 10 1 J Evans 13-2 (M Pipe) 11 ran

FORM GUIDE Colorful Ambition: Felty useful in 1997. Most of that form was over markedly further

n Drums: Off same mark as when "I-length second of 5 to Mr Snaggle at

Taunton (2m3t, soft), making most. Solid place chance, at least, on that form High Life: Won 8-numer hendings at Herstord (2m3), good to firm) last March, mek-ing most, but lost his form on two runs in May, Makers his seasonal debut. Pot Black URS: First run for 2 years when smooth 7-length winner of 7-numer ama-teus' novice race over CSD (soft non-handicap) 2 weeks ago. There have to be doubts about whether he can reproduce that form, but has a fine chance in he does Chantestellist Deletims to the think the media in Chantestellist the life in the seasonal control of the Onsformiblie: Fairform in two notions hundles in September, winning at Worosater (2m4), good), but no form (running as if he had a physical problem) in three runs smoe Glowing Path: Three three a C&D winner in the autum, twice in sellers. Fair chance on that form, but has achieved nothing in four runs since Laffair; (8b penalty for improved 4-length beating of Jalb in 9-runner race at Taunton (2m1), soft; wore longue strap) 8 days ago. No great chance on his previous form, but is the

Storm Tigen: Exposed. Mostly puts up decent efforts, atthough does not always find much in the closing stages. Shaped as it in form over excessive 2m4f on chasing debut.

High Low: Very easy winner at Newton Abbot (2m1), heavy) last month. On the face of it looks well treated off a 11b higher handicap mark, but well held (with similar conditions) three times since Slipstream Star: Has had only four runs over hundles, never finishing better than middivision. No particular promise either run this term. Handicep debut

Alfabad: A 20,000-guinea purchase after proving a rather disappointing maiden (fair form) on Fizit. Some progress over hundles, and may have finished second to What A Fuse at Hereford (2mt t good to soft) last time but for a mistake at the last. Reportedity gurgled that day

VERDICT: The Pipe-trained due Northern Drams and LAFFAH both have lest-time-out form to recommend them, and Tony McCoy's booking for Leffah presumably in-dicates that he is thought to have the better chance. Gearly the most dangerous of their oponents should be Pot Black UK, but, although his recent win reads well, con-fidence is tempered by the very long lay-off which preceded it.

Call It A Day is of National interest

WITH A maximum field of 24 and 55 declared yesterday and the draw an unknown element at this stage - if the ground is on the soft side low numbers should hold the edge – the Lincoln Handicap at Doncaster on Saturday looks very tricky. Further Outlook, strongly fancled but not in the top 24 in the

weights, may miss the cut. The Grand National is little clearer. The David Nicholson pair, Go Ballistic and Call It A Day have ran excellent trials last week, but Go Ballistic, who had Double Thriller - set to receive just 5lb from him at Aintree – 31 lengths back in fourth when runner up to See More Business in the Gold Cup, may

ANTE-POST UPDATE

BY IAN DAVIES

miss the National for the Martell Cup. Call It A Day was runner up to Young Kenny (not in the National) in the Midland National at Uttoxeter on Saturday and was backed from 14-1 to 10-1 yesterday for Aintree

Betty's Boy and Island Chief first and second in the Nation al Hunt Handicap Chase at the Festival, did their National prospects no harm. However, they are set to be 81b and 91b worse for seven lengths and five lengths respectively with thirdplaced Nahthen Lad at Aintree

		CUB /1=	26)			
	DUBAI WORLD	COP (III		. ,		
			<u> </u>	<u> </u>		
1121-1	SILVER CHARM R Ballet (US) Syn Est	7-	2-1	3-1	2-1	21
TRI20-	HIGH-RISE Saged bin Surpor 4yo 9st	54	114	114	114	114
1224-1	VICTORY GALLOP E Whiten (US) 4yo 9st	3-1	11-4	5-2	12-4	34
31413-	DAYLAM Sered bir Surper Syo Sst	6-1	7-1	7-1	7-1	6.1
50120-	ALMETAWAKEL Seed bin Suitor 4yo 981	14-1	10-1	2-1	14-1	12-1
	MALEK R Mandala (US) 5yo 9st	16-1	12-1	10-1	12-1	2
1436-	CENTRAL PARK Seeed bin Surger 4yo 9st	25-1	16-1	33-1	20-1	25-1
13404-	RUNNING STAG P Michel (GB) 5yo 9st	3-1	40-1	33-1	40-1	\$3-1
	Each-way a fifth the ocids, piscas, 1	. 2, 3, (Ned Al She	n. Sunda	y)		• •

	LINCOLN HANDICAR					
			. н	L	\$	T
0203-0	NIGRASINE (14) J L Eyre 5yo 9st 10th	25-1	25-1	25-1	21	32-1
06305-	HORNBEAM (154) (CD) J Jenkins Syo Ast Sib	33-1	33-1	為1	33-1	33-1
10040-	BEAUCHAMP KING (168) (CD) G Builer 6yo 9st 7to	25-1	33- 1	34	33-1	25
00316-	RIGHT WING (171) (CD) J Durlop 5yo 9st 5to	10-1	10-1	B-1	10-1	12-1
5521-	GHALIB (152) (D) M Treggrang Sya 9st 4b	20-1	25-1	25-1	25-1	20-1
12205-	SELK ST JOHN (147) (D) M Ryan Syc 8st 130	16-1	18-1	15-1	16-1	16-1
2352	FREE OPTION (184) (D) (BF) B Hanbury 4/0 Sst 11b	25-1	20-1	20-t	16-1	20-1
3326-1	CAPTADI SCOTT (14) (D) J Glover 5yo 8sl 9to	3-1	8-1	8-1	9-1	9-1
0001-0	RAHEEN (USA) (14) (D) R Folley Byo Bst 80	20-1	20-1	15-1	15-1	15-1
20005-	CHEMIT (153) (D) G L Moore 7yo Bst 7fb	16-1	14-1	16-1	14-1	18-1
2062-	CHINIA RED (USA) (171) (D) 1 His 540 84 76	23-1	251	25-1	351	33-1
3500-	MIGHT OF GLASS (153) (D) J.L. Eyre 6yo 8xl 640	33-1	20-1	20-1	20-1	20-1
30000-	RUSSIAN MUSIC (231) (CD) Miss G Kelencay Syo 8st 6th	25-1	20-1	25-1	20-1	20-1
1000-6	TEMERAIRE (USA) (24) (D) R Ingram 4y0 8st 60	20-1	33-1	3 -1	25-1	25-1
05422-	BLAKESET (210) A Hannon 4yo 8st 4 b	25-1	25-1	20-1	25-1	23-1
130-	DUSHANDE (238) N Calaghan 4yo 8st 40:	33-1	33-1	33-1	28-1	33-1
311-53	NOMORE MR NICEGUY (14) (D BF) E Alston 5yo 8st 4b	20-1	20-1	16-1	29-1	16-1
0/122	TARRY FLYNN (235) (D) (BF) D Weld (m) Syo 8st 4b	10-1	12-7	Π-1	10-1	14-1
05532-	THERHEA (1665) (D) (BP) BR Marmon 6yo 8st 4b	20-1	20-1	20-1	20-1	16-1
30030-	TOM DOUGAL (161) (D) C Smith 4/0 8sl 4b *	25-1	25-1	25-1	25-1	25-1
01410-	ROYAL RESULT (181) (D BF) D Nichols 6yo 8st 16	25-1	25-1	20-1	25-1	25-1
02-010	SILCA BLANKA (14) A Newcorrbs 7yo 8st 1b	20-1	25-1	25-1	20-1	25-1
/0650-	KALA SUNIFISE (272) (0) C Smith 6yo 8st	33-1	33-1	40-1	33-1	25-1
00004	TERTIUM ((8) (D) N Litimoden 7yo 8st	33-1	33-1	25-1	33 1	33-1
	declared. Only 24 can run. Each-way a quarter the colds, p					
	medicable first an animal regularity from an enter b					

(GRAND NATIONAL HANDICAP	CH	ASE	(40	n 4f)
		C	н	Ĺ	S	. <u></u>
212-114	DOUBLE THRELLER P Nichols Syo Yos 80	6-1	7-1	7-1	13-2	7-1
B-5P22	GO BALLISTIC O Nicholson 10yo 10st 12b	10-1	10-1	10-1	10-1	10-1
3-2410	EUDIPE (FR) M Pipe 7yo 10st 10fb	14-1	14-1	14-1	14-1	14-1
P-PT35	ADDINGTON BOY (C) F Murphy 11yo 10st 71b	12-1	2-1	12-1	16-1	14-1
743	CALL IT A DAY (BF) D Nicholson 9yo 10st	14-1	E-1	T 2-1	#-1	18-1
01-1F6	GENERAL WOLFE Miss V Williams 10yo flat 1b	14-1	14-1	¥-1	14-1	16-1
2-11円	SUNY BAY'S Sherwood 'Dyo tist 19b	16-1	18-1	16-1	18-1	16-1
F-3222	FIDDLING THE FACTS (BF) N Henderson Syo tost 3lb	15-1	_=		20-1	
4 53 P3	NAHTHEN LAD Mrs J Pamen 10yo 9st 7to	20-1	20-1	16-1	20-1	14-1
54-31P	BARONET (C) D Nicholson Syo 10st 26	25-1	25-1	25-1	20-1	20-1
1-12P0	EARTH SUMMET (CD) N Teston-Davies tilyo tiss	20-1	25-1	25-1	20-1	25-1
	HANAKHAM M Pipe 10yo 10st 3b	25-1	20-1	20-1	25- †	25-1
F43-P6	BELIMONT KING P Nichols 11yo 10st 71b	33-1	33-1	28-1	<u>చ</u> -1	33-1
- COST	ESCARTERIGUE (C) D Nicholson 7yo fist 8to	20-1		33-1	25-1	·
3P-1PP	COOME HILL W Derms 10yo 10st hilb	33-1	33-1	40-1	33-1	33-1
1/m02	ISLAND CHIEF P Beaumont 10yo 8st 2to	40-1	33-1	33-1	33-1	48-1
1-2 5 P	KENDAL CAVALIER IN Hawks 9yo 9st 11b	20-1	33-1	40-1	33-1	33-1
5/161	SETTY'S BOY K Salley 10yo 8st 19lb	50-1	33-1	33-1	33-1	50-1
2-33	EVEN FLOW ? Casey 10yo 9st 6lb	33-1	40-1	40-1	33-1	504
OIP:	HOLLYBANK BUCK A J Mertin (H) 9st 8et 9fb	33-1	40-1	20-1	33-1	68-1
3mj 40	can rum. Minimum: 10st. Each-way a quarter the oxists, places,	1, 2, 3,	4, (Anth	es, Seas	day, 10 .	4ani)

RESULTS

NEWCASTLE

Also ran: 18-1 Common Sound, 20-1 Kobalt, 33-1 Isle of Phum (5th), 100-1 Colreal from the following states of the following states

3.00: Rm, hunter chase) 2. Miners Melody _____Mrs S Grant 5-1 3. Fiscal Policy ____Mr R Trotter 12-1 Also ran: 9-4 fav Magstad (5th), 9-2 Stratt-more Lodge, 16-1 Multingar (4th), 16-1 Thank U Jim, 20-1 Sergeant Mullarkey, 50-1 Munton Heights (6th), 100-1 Majic Rain, 10 ran. 4 ¼ nk. 25, dist. (Mrs D Gloson, Hexham). Tota: win £3.90; places £1.60, £2.50, £3.00. DF: £10.20. CSF: £17.23. Non

3.30: (2m, novice claiming hundle)
1. ONE STOP ________ S Taylor 11-4
2. Splandid Occasion _____ N Smith 8-1
3. Monts ______ R Johnson 4-5 fev 100-1 Over Stated (6th) 10 ram. 1/s. /s. 18. 6, 16. (M Barnes, Pen-nth) Tote: win £390; places £170, £110. £120. DF: £20.20. CSF: £24.72.

en Gien (401). 7 ran. 17, 5. 17, 11, 12 (N Meson, Whitburn). Tota: win £6.90; places £310, £3.70. DF: E1180 CSF: 644.77

4.35: (2m 4t, humter chase) 1, YOUNG STEVEN 2. Private Jet Mrs S Forster 11-10 fav 2. Private Jet Mr G Markham 3-1 3. Yornoangel Mr N Tutty 33-1 3. Yornoangel Mr N Tutty 33-1 Also ran: 7-2 Mulingar Con, 10-1 Hopes Delight (Hi), 33-1 What The Heck, 40-1 Grand As Clwt. 7 rsn. 29. 2, 5. (Mrs. J Hollands, Gordon, Scotland). Tote: win £2.20; places £1.30, £2.00. DF: £3.50. CSF: £4.30.

of the fire-fire opening the fire-fire of the con-

5.05: (2m, NH Flat race)
1. IRELAND'S EYE Also ran: 7-2 Wynyard Damsel (8th), 6-Red Striker (4th), 10-1 Commandant, 10-Hed Striker (407), 10-1 Commensions, 17-1 Michael Finnegan, 14-1 Equinames Misera. 25-1 Well 1 Never, 33-1 Bromley Mill, 50-1 Clekuman, 100-1 Gray Abbay (5th). 12 ran. 3/h. 1/h. 2/h. 12, 1/k. (J. Norbon, Barnsley), Totte: win 53.70; places \$140, \$500, \$110, DF: \$1940.

SOUTHWELL Going: Standard

2.15: 1. MOONLIGHT FLIT (D Young) 11-8 fav; 2. River Ensign 11-2; 3. Karinski 15-2: 10 ran. 17, 8 (J.L. Eyre, Thirsk), Total £180; £100 £150 £190 DF: £780 CSF: £887. Tricast: £3184, 2.45: 1. SEVEN (P Goode) 12-1; 2. Abtael 8-1; 3. C-Harry 9-2. 10 ran, 7-4 lav Effe Hope (4th), 2. 1, (8 Smart, Lambourn). Tote: £15.80; £490; £2:0; £180 DF; £42.90; £34.47.

CSF: E93.47,
3.15: 1. SHANGHI CRAB (M Ferton) 8-fi
ter; 2. Hearthyards Jake 7-2; 3. Outloo Broad 33-1 9 ran, 4, 6. (M Bell, Newmor-lest). Tote: £180; £100, £130, £700. DF: £190, CSF: £295.
3.45: 1. CHINA CASTLE (P Goode) 8-4 ter.
2. Bawatan 8-1; 3. Steamroller Stanty 7-1. 7 ran, 1/k, Int. (P Haslem, Middlefarm). Tote: £2.20; £150, £220. Duel Forecast. £1640, CSF: £200. Tricast: £5397. Non Fur-ner. Swift.

ner. Swift. 4.15: 1. KEEN HANDS (R Price) 100-30 fe/; 2. Thornaby Girl 4-1; 3. Loughantes 10-1. 12 ran. 1, 4. (Mrs. N. Macauley, Metion Move/oray). Total: £480; £110, £210, £570, DF: Mondray). Tota: £180; £10; £20; £370. DF: £950. CSF: £1518. 4.50; 1. SREAKIN EVEN (L. Charmock) 7-1; 2. Desert Invader 15-1; 3. NRthy Norman 9-2. 13 ran. 100-30 fav Ambiticus (5th). nk. 11/4. (J. L. Eyre, Thirsk). Tota: £1105, £210. £500. £170. DF: £106.50. CSF: £109.50. Treast: £536.27 Text Filterate: £536.01 (nat. 1546).

cast: £536.92, Tota Trifacta: £3,532.10 (part won, £2,88.90 to Exater 3.00 today). Jackpot: £18,728.20 (part won, pool of £21,829.81 to Exeter today). Placepot: £66.00. Quadpot: £960. Place 6: £49.65. Place 5: £40.58.

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RACING	SERV	ICE:
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LIVE COMMEN		
<u>Uttoxeter</u>	971	981
PONTWELL	972	982
EXETER	973	
ALL COURS		
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EXETER

HYPERION

2.00 Guru Rinpoche 3.30 Holdimciose 2.30 Arctic Thunder 4.00 Henry Bruce 3.00 Defendtherealm 4.30 Pot Black UK

■ Right-hand, undulating course. Stiff test of stamine. Run-in of 250 yards.
■ Cc⊥.e is 5m SW of Exeter on A38. ADMISSION: Grandstand & Paddock £11; Siver Ring £5. Accompanied under-16s admitted free. CAR PARK: £2 on rails; rema

III LEADING TRAINERS: M Pipe 63-268 (23.5%), Miss H Knight 33-132 (25%), P Hobbs 31-143 (21.7%), R Frost 22-174 (12.6%). ■ LEADING JOCKEYS: R Dummoody 36-115 (31.3%), A P McCoy 29-156 (18.6%), J Frost

19-139 (1274), J Osborne 17-66 (258%).

FAYOURITES: 196 wins from 518 races (success rate 37.8%).

BLINKERED OR VISORED FIRST TIME: Dublin River (2.00), White ington (230), Spring Marathon & Quiet Moments (300), Colonel Blazer (330), Henry Bruce (400).

2	.00	ROBERT WEBB TRAVEL NOVICE SELLING HURDLE (CLASS G) £2,200 2m 1f 110yds Penalty Value £1,786
1	+23210	DUBLIN RIVER (USA) (16) (K W Bel) J O'Shea 6 TI 8
2	001PPP	DUTCH (109) (CO) (A Barrow) A Barrow 7 11 2X Abspuru (3) V
3	-60F30	GURU REPOCHE (19) (P A Tylor) R Frost 7 tf 2
4	005	JANDAL (19) (S N Burfield) P Rodford 5 17 2 S Burrough
5	0-6PF	HENBURY PRINCESS (14) (F.E. Crumpler) 8 R Milman 6 to ft
6	03-P06	SEE MINONOW (14) (Miss S Waterman) Miss S Waterman 6 to 11
7		CHIKAL (P262) (Mrs M M Palings B Paling 4 10 8 W Marston
6	633430	GOLDENACRES (22) (B A Lewendon) M Muggeridge 4 10 8
9		JUST A STROLL (FSS4) (S T Levis) A Carrol 4 to 8
10		HONEY DANCE (FR) (F153) (M Ppe) M Ppe 4 10 3
Ti		TOY BOX (F154) (J McCorrochie) J McCorrochie 4 to 3 V Slattery

- 11 declared -BETTING: 5-2 Honey Dancs, 3-1 Dublin River, 6-1 Guru Rinpoche, 13-2 Goldenacres, 12-1 Just A

FORM GUIDE

Dublin River: Viscred last 3 starts, running well first two of them (with 2m4f van in claimer at Hereford) but beaten long way with ground probably too soft on latest Dutch: Won seller over CSD (good to soft) in October Stiff task even on that form, however, and has no form in three outings since.

Gurn Ringoche: Chances on best, including third in nowce handicap at Taunton (2m3f.

soft) in February. No comparable form this term, mostly with greater stamina tests.

Jandat: Little form either on Flat (for Gary Moore) or over hundles. Showed ability in sell-ing handsay, No promise first three starts over hundles. Showed ability in selling handsay over CSD (soft) latest, as would have finished second but for tall 3 out. See Minnow: Has accomplished very little and is seldom sent off at less than 100-1 Chillust: Poor maden at up to Im27 on Flat, latest start, July 4.

Conferences in frame three times over hundles in classes or Tarette Close 1 and

Contains Poor maneer for up to make on Fat, cases sourt July 4.

Goldenacies: In trained three times over hurdes, in claimers at Tauriton (2mt) film) and Hereford (2mt) good to solt) last two occasions. Cannot be ruled out on that Just A Stroit. Had three runs on Fat as 2yo, form only when second in soft-ground 5f seller on debut. Hurding debut on this return from a long absence. Honey Dance: 4yo filly by Fabulous Dancer, Imported from France, like so many of Martin Pipe's top performers, but this one had little form (on Flat) before her transfer. Toy Box: 4yo filly by Salse. No Flet form for Gles Bravery before sold for 1000 guineas VERDICT: Henbury Princess could get in the shake-up, but DUBLIN RIVER, Guru Rinpoche and Goldenecnes have more solid form credentials. Dublin River makes most appeal, on the assumption that it was the soft ground that was responsible for his disappointing run list time. The Pipe import Honey Dance would not have to be that good to make a winning start to her new career in Britain.

2.30 GOSHAWK NOVICE HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS E) \$3,000 added 2m 7f Penalty Value \$2,583

	121364	PENNSULA BOY (27) (Pounditaid inn Racing) P Bowen 6 11 10
	1-533P	TWISTED LOGIC (94) (Uptands Biopdstock) S Sherwood 6 to 9
		ARCTIC THUNDER (USA) (28) (Meethy: Motos) B Paling 8 to 5 R Durimoody
	-53-5P	WHISTLING RUPUS (33) (Aryumani Pship) N Twicton-Davies 7 17 0 Milchael Brennen 8
	0.6346	LUGGSY (17) (J Duggan) N Tintston-Dames 7 10 9
	5-3P3U	LONGSTONE LAD (8) (G Edwards) G Edwards 7 to 8
		DANCING POSER (12) (C) (Baidings Ltd) G Baiding 7 to 8 N Duncain (7) B
	U6-4U6	SHLYER SIROCCO (56) (F.J. Sansbury) Mrs M. Jones 7 to 7
	PD-500	ARGUABLY (28) (Mrs Colin Murray) G Baiding 7 10 6 F Kentry (7)
	, 36 -PP	SELECTIVE ROSE (22) (Donald Smith) J S Smith 8 to 4 N Mulholland (7)
	OUF 65	ASSDE THE SEA (8) (Mrs M Payne) A Dictor 7 to 3
	0-4905	QUICKSWOOD (11) (Harvey Special C Barwell 5 to 1 L. Cummins (3)
	505P4	CHARLE HAWES (11) (Silver Knight Exhibitions) S Melor 10 100
	2P-405	BE IN SPACE (19) (L. J.A. Phops) Mrs P Ford 8 10 0
	0P6F71	WELEURIN BOY (11) (K. Jones) M. Sheppard 7 t0 0
	603-P0	HOW TO RUN (18) (C E Barry) D Writin 6 10 0
	04-F05	EASTDON GOLD DUST (110) (M. A Świtt) FI Baker 6 10 0
	066-6	JEVINGTON (128) (Kinvale Partners) Williams 7 t0 0
		- 18 declared -
		ht. 10st. True handicep welghts: Be in Space 9st 10th, Wethurn Boy 9st 9th, How To Run
19	Ko, Essado	in Gold Duct 9st 7th, Jevington 9st 5th.
Ŧ	TING: 5-1	Welburn Bost, 11-2 Peologisto Rev. 15-2 Artists Thunder 15-2 Depolog Poper 8-1 Luc-

gay, 9-1 Congetone Lad, 10-1 Silver Strocco, 12-1 Aprile The Sea, Twisted Logic, 14-1 others 1398. Bally Lra 6 10 4 S Burough 7-1 (P Rodford) 7 ran

FORM GUIDE

Peninsula Boy: Mostly in good form this term, winning at Cartista (2m4f. good) and Towcester (3m, good). Also has a fair chance on his fourth at Folkestone last time "fletisted Logic: Irish point winner. Third in nonce hurdee at Ascot (3m, good to soft). ster (2m5), 50°0. First-time blinkers did not work on handicap debut last ti nder: Fier middle-distance stayer on Flat. Third start over hurdles when fit to impressive Ballysicyce at Ludlow (2m. good to soft). Step up in trip should suit him Whilstling Rufus: Good chance on one bit of form, when 5 lengths that of 16 in nowce Whisting Rufus: Good chance on one bit of form, when 5 lengths third of 6 in nonce hurdle at Ludow (2m51, good) last February, but no encouragement this season Luggay: Good-loolong 7yo with decent bumper form in 1997/98. Very desponding over hurdles, remote sixth in decent race at Newbury (2m51, good to ach) on latest Longstone Lud: Third over 3m and 2m41 at Tauritor. Fan well on latest until hit rat and neter unseased. Makes appeal, although he has not yet run on ground this last Denomy Poser: C3D winner (good to soft) in November when visioned first time. Largely out of form since, sometimes reluctant to rose, but put up a fair effort last time. Silver Strocco: Showed abidity in bumpers, but well below that form over hurdles and unseen earth, calculation and versiones. Chromodel his since littles start. salver strough: showed early in our fences. Dropped 6th since latest start was an early casualty only start over fences. Dropped 6th since latest start Arguebly: 40-1, 141/- lengths lifth of 12 at Wincanton (2midt, good to soft) in Decem-ber. Showed little on heavy ground next time and was out of his depth on latest Selective Roses: Good chance on her fourth of 11 here (2midt, soft), last April but has been pulled up both starts this term, including in handicap on latest

Aside The Sea: Second in an Irish point. Has not shown much in novice chase and nonce hurdies, and chance here appears to rest with first run on a soft surface Culcleswood: Hendicap debut having made frame in two bumpers but feiled to get beyond mid-division in novice hurdies. Should stay well, but also tried this trip less time Charille Haves: Winning pointer but little form under rules over less 15 months. Beet-en 26 lengths off this mark in 3m2 handicap latest, and his chances are not obvious Be in Space: Not quite at her best this season. Stays this trip, but has hed plenty of previous opportunities to get off the mark and failed, including in handicaps Welburn Boy: Out of the handicap proper but must be seriously considered after mak-

ing all to win 12-runner novice handicap at Herstord (3m2f, good to soft) by 11/. lengths How To Run: Pulled up and tailed off, his two runs in handicaps this season, Chances on his third of 5 finishers to impressive Not Really here (2m3f, heavy) 12 months ago Eastdon Gold Dust: Poor maiden, tried from 2m to 3m. Fourth off a lower mark here (2m2), firm) tast May. Little chance either start this season and has not shown much

VERDICT: Plenty of these can be given a chance on the odd piece of form, but few have recent efforts that recommend them. Exceptions are last-time-out winner Wel-burn Boy, Pentraula Boy and LONGSTONE LAD, with the last-named a lightly-raced 7yo who looks the sort to make some progress. Arctic Thunder is unexposed over

hurdles and of obvious interest on this handicep debut with the s	sterp up in trip.
3.00 HEAVITREE BREWERY NOVICE HA	NDICAP

	/2-F13	MELITARY ACADEMY (15) (BF) (R Optien) Williams 10 11 10	R Durmood
	54F5F1	DEFENDTHEREALM (14) (C) (G Standing) R Frost 8 # 1	Fro الحــــــــــــــــــــــــــــــــــــ
	-1P35P	SPRING MARATHON (14) (D) (Mrs N Dutfield) Mrs N Dutfield 8 to 13	Mr L Jefford
	1-23:P	GLAISNOCK LAD (B1) (D) (J Burley) R Alner 7 to 18	A Thombs
		ROSE GARDEN (372) (T E Pocock) R Pocock 10 10 12	
	64-131	COUNTRY STORE (11) (D) (Westfield Racing) M Pipe 10 10 12	A P MicCi
	PP3450	THE FLYING DOCTOR (47) (Galloping Punters) P Bowen 9 10 7	W Marsk
	-5526	NORLANDIC (NZ) (33) (BP) (Till House Partnersho) P Hobbs 7 to 6	R Widger (
	6011PP	COURET MOMENTS (55) (D) (Mrs L Murphy) P Murphy 6 10 6	,A Ferrent
ı		GLEVUM (19) (Mrs. J.K. Powell) N Twiston-Davies 7 10 4	
	2004P	RELUCKINO (21) (M G Literall) M Wilkinson 9 to 0	S Cum
2		SANDORAN (12) (M HB) M HB 6 10 0	
ļ	-F3U3U	MIR PERKUPP (11) (D) (Mrs M Keegan) Lord Tyrone \$ 10 0L	. Cumunins (
ŀ	PP4344	PARADE RACER (19) (Red & Bue Racing) P Murphy 8 10 0	chael Brecon
i	4LI36 P /	TEXEIT (966) (Termers Partnership) R Dickin 9 10 0	Х Айгриги (
		42	

tum weight: 10st. True handicap weights: Rébuciéno 9st 13th, Sandoran 9st 12th, Mr Perkupp 9st 12th, Parade Roor Sci 11th, Tentel Ser 10th.

BETTING: 9-4 Country Store, 4-1 Norfandie, 5-1 Defendiblerselne, 13-2 Millitary Academy, 12-1 nock Lad, 14-1 Quiet Moments, 16-1 Glenum, Mr Perforps, Spring Mensition, 20-1 others 1998: Ragime Boy 10 10 21 Lewrence 10-1 (C R Barwell) 12 ran

FORM GUIDE

Military Academy: Won two nowce hundes on a soft surface in 1996/97 for Gordon Richards Lightly raced since odds-on winner of novice chase at Plumpton (3m1t heavy) but only third when 5-4 at Doncaster five weeks later

Defanditherestim: Gradually back to form, the one to benefit from Bracey Puris fall 3

out here (2m3), soft) last time. This longer trip should suit him significantly better

Spring Marrathon: Appears to be nowhere near so good over fences as he was over
hundles, and a hard note (soon under pressure, making mistakes) in both springes

Glatenock Lard: Tyo, former pointer. Won a novice chase (2m6), good to firm) last May

Glatenock Lard 7to, former pointer. Won a novice chase (2m5) good to firm) last May and a novice handcap at Ludow (3m, good) in November. Below form last time Rose Gardem: Very lightly raced. Modest form in two novice hundles early in 1996, but urraced since and has had only one previous start over fences. Country Store: Won handcap at Tauriton on first run for Martin Pipe and another at Sandown (by 6 lengther from Knights Creat) on latest, both 3m on soft surface. Up 7th The Phyling Doctor: Placed first three starts over fences in summer, but pulled up next three and sent back over hundles. Below form recently, but soft ground against him Nortandle: Reliable enough over hundles, winning handcap at Tauriton (3m, soft) and numing creditably at Sandown last time. Hes to be considered on this chasing debut Gulet Momenta: Looked through stayer in winning at Utilizater and Fortivell in December, but pulled up off this mark with similarly very soft ground last two starts Glenum: Occasional form over hundles form, but that was from the 1996/37 seeson and he showed nothing when siturning to action for chasing debut 3 weeks ago Sandoran: Syll a mauden after 13 rurs in humpershundle races and now tries a chase for the first one; and an accepted on a couple of his efforts over 2m4f on heavy this year Mr Perkupp; Wirraring pointer in tretand. Little form in British this term but has harbed at better on a couple of occasions, disputing lead when unseating 6 out fast time Parade Races: 3b out of handcap but has some chance on the officirs in frame this season over 2m6f and 3m2f on soft. Well below form last two outings however.

season over 2m6t and 3m2t on soft. Well below form last two outings how er, probably best watched on first start since July 1996

VERDICT: COUNTRY STORE is bound to be among the market leaders, but de-servedly so after doing little wrong on her three starts for Martin Pipe, winning two of them, and overcoming mistakes to put 6 lengthe and more between herself and the rest at Sandown last time. Defundationalism is an obvious danger eiter his return to form (albeit as a fortunate winer) last time over what had looked to be an inadequate tip of 2m3f at this course. Military Academy and Glaberock Lad cannot be ruled out, while The Flying Doctor is an outsider with place prospects.

3 30 BUZZARD HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS E) 25,500 added

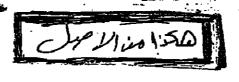
l	0.00	2m 3f Penalty Value £4,041
1	11123	VILLAGE KING (101) (Capt E J Edwards-Hasthoote) P Hobbs 6 12 0R Duswoody
2		HOLDINGLOSE (12) (C) (D) (Mrs C Loze) R Prost 9 11 7
3	103212	SHINBA HILLS (159) (D) (Mrs K.A. Stuert) G McCourt 11 11 2 E Hysband
4	2-4360	COLONEL BLAZER (11) (C) (D) (T W Biddlecombe) Miss H Kright 7 11 1R Farried B
5	3FU224	GRATOMI (11) (CD) (BF) (J Pearl) P Ritchers 9 11 0
6	-15442	SEYMOURSWIFT (26) (D) (Statight Facing) D Gandolfo 9 10 11
7	211-44	NORMARANGE (26) (ET Wey) P Rodford 9 to to
8		SAGAMAN (GER) (36) (M Doocsy) R Dickin 13 10 5
9	P6201J4	COOUREE (28) (8 T H Westort) J King 11 12 0 L. Coombine (3)
٦	1-FUU4	SILENT GUNS (NZ) (8) (C) (G Edwards) G Edwards 10 10 0
		- 10 declared -

Minimum weight: 10st True handicap weights: Cooleee 8st 12th, Silent Guns 8st. SETTING: 3-1 Village King, 4-1 Holdmictore, 9-2 Gr marrange, 10-1 Colonel Blazer, 16-1 others 1998: Capenwray 9 10 8 W Marston 2-1 (J King) 4 cm ee, 9-2 Gratomi, 7-1 Shimba Hills, Sey

FORM GUIDE

Village King: Won first four chase starts, notably 2m5t handicap off 110 (114 here) at Chetenham. Beaten at 8-11 next time and below form in hotter company on latest Holdsmiclose: Has taken well to fences winning over 3m here (heavy) and coping with drop back to 2m5t at Fontwell (good to soft). Early faller last time. On the upgrade Shimba Hills: Won three times early in season at around this time. Unraced since good second off this mark in another fast-ground event over 3m in October Colonel Blazer: Won poor handicap at Lecaster (2m4), good to firm) last February.

Returned with two fair efforts over hurdles, but twice disappointing over fences since Gratemi: Disappointing after a fine 1997/96. Particularly poor effort penultimate start. Showed more 21/2 months later, but was favourite and still only 91/2 lengths fourth arswift: Back to form when in frame over 2m5/ last two starts, never dange ous when going down by 5 lengths to Ambleside at Wincarton on latest



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THE INDUPENDENT,

South Africa secure series

NEW ZEALAND regained a touch of their self-respect on the morning at the Basin Re- BY HENRY BLOFELD serve. First their last three wickets added another hectic 74 and then they removed two South African batsmen when they went in to make the 16 they needed to win the match and the series with it, 1-0.

The South African opening bowlers may have been guilty at the start of thinking that they had to do nothing more than go through the motions with the new ball only four overs old, however they found Dion Nash in a most determined mood. He began with a glance for four off Shaun Pollock and then drove Steve Elworthy backward of square for another. Sixteen more runs had been scored when Daniel Vettori was apped on his crease by a beauty from Pollock which

nipped back and bowled him. Simon Doull, who is no great shakes with a bat in his hand, now played a most engaging little innings. He began by ondriving Paul Adams for six and then took three good fours off him in his next over which produced 14 runs.

Two more fours came in took over the South African job Adams' next over but after a last after a player rebellion against on-drive against Elworthy which Mike Proctor in 1994, has pro-

in Wellington

New Zealand 222 & 291 South Africa 498-8 dec & 16-2 South Africa win by 8 wickets

took New Zealand into the lead. Nash swong at Adams and skied a catch to Mark Boucher.

back foot took Doull past his previous highest Test score of 31 before Shayne O'Connor was well caught by Jonty Rhodes off Adams running across the pitch from silly point to conclude the New Zealand innings. South Africa then lost Her-

schelle Gibbs when he and Gary Kirsten got into a real muddle over a single to mid-off. Jacques Kallis was bowled when he made room to play a square cut to a ball from Vettori which was too far up and it was Kirsten and Daryll Cullinan who saw South Africa home.

That enabled Bob Wookner to complete his five-year reign as coach of South Africa's Test team on a high note. The former England Test batsman, who

team in world cricket behind Australia, according to the rankings. His influence has also made South Africa the most innovative one-day team and he will bow out after the World Cup which starts in May. "I can say modestly, that I leave South African cricket in reasonable hands," Woolmer said.

The South African captain, A lovely square drive off the Hansie Cronje, said: "Bob took over when it was a youngish side... he did a tremendous job. He helped me find my own feet. Sometimes your confidence goes as a captain when your form is not right. He has been tremendous in that."

11-7-15-0 (nb1); Adams 22.3-6-6:
SOUTH AFRICA - Second Im
G Kirsten not out
H H Gibts nin out
J Kaiss b Verzori
D J Caliman not out.
Total (for 2)
Fall: 1-6, 2-14.
Resultus C'Oronor 4.1-0-9-0; Verzori



or 4.1-0-90, Venuel 4-0-7-1.

Yorkshire's Darren Gough displays his Cornhill England player of the year award yesterday David Ashdown ing a hat-trick in Sydney.

Deserved accolade for Gough

DARREN GOUGH yesterday received recognition for his outstanding individual performances over the last 12 months by winning the Cornhill England player of the year award,

The Yorkshire fast bowler has been given the accolade ahead of his departure for England's training camp in Labore on Sunday with the other 14 members of the World Cup squad for the forthcoming Coca-Cola Cup in Sharjah.

Gough completed a remarkable comeback in a year which began with injury and fought off competition from Nasser Hussain, Angus Fraser, Alec Stewart and Mark Ramprakash for the award. He was presented with a £10,000 cheque and an engraved glass trophy at a lunch n London yesterday.

"He's got a big smile, big pace and he's a big lad," said David Lloyd, the England coach, who was on the panel of judges alongside the former Test players Mike Selvey, Bob Taylor and Bob Willis. "Darren Gough is a team player, a people's player and highly respected by all international opposition."

Gough took 17 wickets to help England win their first home Test series in over a decade against South Africa last year and shone as an individual during this winter's Ashes series taking 21 wickets – includ-

Disappointing England | Eagles left on the ledge | Chelsea the only

IN THE Under-18 tournament at Cardiff, an England team large-ly consisting of players with National League experience were beaten 2-0 by Ireland to finish a disappointing third. The U16s beat the Irish 2-1, thanks to two goals from their captain, James

Southgate, to finish on top. With the exception of the Women's West Premier all the to the play-offs. In the West, with a game to play, Exmouth lead Colwall on goal difference.

Cambridge University's fight for National status finally ended in a 1-1 draw with Peterborough Town at the weekend. With 15

BY BILL COLWILL

minutes remaining. Peterborough, who needed at least a draw to secure the East Premier Holidays title, opened the scoring through Gary Hales. Cambridge were celebrating

five minutes later at a penalty Regional League line-ups are corner by their striker Adam now known and the clubs are Laird, but it was not to be. The looking forward to promotion or non engaged umpire stepped in to rule the ball had not been stopped. Phil Outram did equalise with two minutes left, but Peterborough had the point they wanted for the title. In the final West Premier

men's game Swansea waited at

arrive while Weston also waited at home. With Weston twice previously having travelled to Swansea to find the game postponed the League had instructed it be played at Weston. Weston gained a 5-0 walkover with Swansea relegated.

Mess: Whitchurch, Formby, Fareham, Edg-baston and Peterborough, along with

home for Weston-super-Mare to | AYR SCOTTISH EAGLES' chances of progressing into the Sekonda Superleague playoff semi-finals are virtually nil

after their dramatic 2-2 draw

with Cardiff Devils.

The play-off champions seemed set to record a muchneeded win as goals from Jamie Steer and Jeff Hoad saw Jim Lynch's side lead 2-0 with just nine minutes remaining. But the Devils defenceman Martin Lindman set up a tense finish by pulling one back before Steve Thornton broke Eagles' hearts with an equaliser just a second from the end to take the game into overtime.

Neither side could find the winner, the draw leaving Avr

ICE HOCKEY

needing Nottingham or Cardiff to lose their remaining three games if they are to go through. At the MEN Arena, the netminder Frank Pietrangelo recorded his second successive weekend shut-out as Manchester Storm beat Bracknell Bees 4-0. His man-of-the-match show stung the Bees and helped his team-mates storm to the top of Group A.

In a fiery first period Jeff Tomlinson's 15th-minute marker was all that separated the two sides. Tomlinson doubled his side's advantage, and Rick Brebant gave Storm some breathing space with a third

ond session remaining. Pietrangelo continued to foil the visitors, who leaked a fourth when Jeff Jablonski broke with three minutes left to beat Bruno Campese.

Sheffield Steelers forward

Ken Priestlav will reconsider his future after helping the club to Challenge Cup glory. Priestlay scored the final goal in his side's 4-0 rout of Nottingham Panthers in front of a 9.200 sell-out crowd at the Sheffield Arena, The 31-year-old Canadian said: "We will talk in the summer. I just want to enjoy this, which is phenomenal, and think about other things later."

...S Kelly

with three minutes of the sec- value left at 8-1

of value left in the Premiership betting following a weekend in which the main contenders all won. The bookmakers feel the title rests between Manchester United and Arsenal, but Chelsea and Leeds are still quoted and, while it is hard to see Leeds pulling off a shock, Chelsea are overpriced at 8-1. They are seven points off the pace, but have a game in hand and could easily amass a further 21 points to end on 77, a total their rivals will struggle to match if they slip up.

Down among the dead men entry Exerton an

On the Euro front, Manchester United are favourites for the European Cup and look bound for the final after drawing Juventus, hucky to get past Olympiakos in the quarterfinals and deeply unimpressive at Roma to home on Sunday. The mystery is why the superb Dynamo Kiev, having laid to rest their off-season hoodoo by kicking out Real Madrid, the holders, in the quarter-finals, remain the outsiders of four.

Parma have shortened as favourites for the Uefa Cup after drawing the inconsistent Atletico Madrid in the semis while Marseilles, tipped antepost in this neck of the woods Real Mellorca 11-7 13-2 6-1 6-1 13-2 at 20-1, are a top-priced 3-1 after tak shows

Winner's Cup Lazio, on course to win the scudetto, are oddson after drawing Lokomotiv Moscow in the semis. Chelsea. the holders, face the smart defensive outfit Real Mailorca.

Leeds	28-1 33	-1 50-1 50	-1 50-1
TO BI	REL	EGATE	D
•	H	S	7
Notine Forest	D/0	2/0	2/6
Chariton	1-3	2-5	2-5
Southampton	4-7	4.9	4-9
Everton	11-4	11-4	2-1
Commenter	33.4	11.4	3.6

UTTOXETER

HYPERION

2.20 McHattle 2.50 Legend Of Love 3.20 Hydro 3.50 Master Rastus 4.20 High Island 4.50 Patras 5.20 Here's Hoping

II Left-hand course, Run-in of 170yds.

III Course is SE of town near 85017. Uticaster railway station (Derby-Crewe line) adjoins course, ADMISSION: Cub £15 (CAPs £2); Tattersalls £10 (CAPs £7); Centre of course £3. CAR

PARK: Free.

II LEADING TRAINERS: M Pipe 32 wins from 119 runners (28,9%), D Nicholson 23-108 (21,3%), K Bailey 20-108 (18,9%), O

Sherwood 19-83 (202%).
III LEADING JOCKEYS: A P McCoy 33 wins from 120 rides (275%), N Williamson 23-127 (181%), R Dumwoody 22-113 (185%), R Johnson 21-154 (136%). # FAVOURITES: 267-708 (38%). BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Emperor's Magic (320).

2.20 SPOTON NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS D) £4,000 added 2m 4f 110yds

325F MCHATTE (NZ) (30) (D) S Brodefew 8 11 9. 294 WESTERTON (51) J Fiz/Gendi 6 ti 2 P Niven 3 LONG ROOM LADY (28) N Twiston-Davies 5 to 11 C Lisually o

FORM VERDICT MCHATTIE is the clear form choice and a return to his best will make him hard to best under conditions that suit him wall.

in market rivels have yet to demonstrate their ability to

FONTWELL

2.10 Bolton Forest 2.40 Ballybay 3.10 Jobsa goodun 3.40 SMINT (nap) 4.10 Cheater 4.40

W. Left-hand hurde course; figure-di-eight chase course. Tight charling hurses.

If Left-hand hurde course; figure-di-eight chase course. Tight charling hurses.

If Course is S of vilage at function of A29 and A27. Bernham Miney station (Brighton – Portamouth line) 2m. ADMISSION:

Side 13; Tationsels S9 (accompanied under-tils free); Silver Ring 25. CAR PARIC Plants area 24 plus £5 for each occupent; remainder free.

I LEADING TRAINERS: M Pipe 28 wins from 110 runners

E LEADING JOCKEYS: A P NeCoy 40 wins from 158 rides (253%), P Hide 24-133 (8%), N Willemson 19-75 (253%), R Dum-

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Guignol Du Cochet (2.40). LONG DISTANCE TRAVELLER: Danger Baby (4.40) has been

2.10 OSBORNE HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added to stakes

es set 10b, Aus Benerd Set 7b. BETTING: 4-1 Studio Tairty, 9-2 Bollon Forest, 6-1 Nordansk, Khalidi, 7-BETTING: 4-1 Studio Tairty, 9-2 Bollon Forest, 6-1 Nordansk, Khalidi, 7-1 1 Fit To Bast, 15-2 Machievell, 8-1 Febulicus Mitolo, 74-1 Derisbey,

olis 26-60 (433%), J Gillord 22-140 (57%), R Buck-

GOING: Good (Good to Firm in places).

258%), P Nicholia kr 18-83 (217%),

oody 18-85 (21,2%).

■ FAVOURITES: 239-551 (43.4%).

2m 2f 110yds

2.50 STREBEL NOVICE SELLING HURDLE (CLASS G) 52,000 added 2m

30-P CENSOR (129) B Linuellyn 6 11 1 R Johnson QOUGS PACKTIN PARKY (27) D McCain 6 11 A C Copie (5) 6253 LEGEND OF LOVE (ed) B Linuellyn 4 12 13 D McPaul (8) 0 CATHES FLOWER (27) D Bernan 5 10 10 M Brenan 00 GREENACRES GODDESS (26) T Wall 5 10 10 O INSPIRATIONAL (27) Miss M Ros 48 JOLLYHACK (11) J OShen 4 107.... 00 HORIZONIZAL (94) W Clay 4 10 2....

BETTHAC: evens Lagand Of Love, 11-4 Jobytsck, 5-1 Cansoc, 7-1 Pack-lin Parky, 14-1 Ballina Boy, 33-1 othera FORM VERDICT

Today's consistons will suit LEGEND OF LOVE who should make the most of the dop in class in a race lacking any strength in depth. However with Richard Johnson booked for his new stable-companion Censor It will be interesting to see if the latter attracts support deepte his disappointing recent

3.20 NORTHERN RACING NOVICE HANDI-CAP CHASE (F) £4,000 added 2m 4f

5 1973-1973-1974 Man 2 Second 8 10 0 B Harding
7 4/P-02 COULIN LOCH (12) Man E England 10 10 0 E Byron
— 7 declared —
Minimum weight: 10st. True handicap weights: Hydro Sal Sto, Coulin Loch xx. NNG: 11-4 Tr<u>omett,</u> 7-2 Bullder Boy, 5-1 Emperor's Megic, 6-1 Chara-Ldrainel, Independent Grey, 8-1 Hydro, 20-1 Coulin Look

FORM VERDICT TRIEMALLT has form figures which suggest he is a poor jumple, but that in a bit misseading and this well-treated course winner is worth another chance. Hall take the bearing it he puts in a clear round. The rest are much of a muchness, with Channing Admiral parhaps the pick of them.

FORM VERDICT

FABULOUS MYOTO may be the answer to quite a competitive race for this level. He caught the eye here last time (subsequently beamed under the non-tries' rule) and, though there was an element of his running on less through beaten horses, is underliably interesting off an 8b lower handcap mark

and on ground which may wall suit him batter. Khalles is the

2.40 CERTAIN JUSTICE NOVICE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS F) £4,000 added

11 D5-St2 BALLYBAY (81) R Ainer 8 T0 6 P Holley
12 2-F3RP MAJESTIC STORM (47) T McGovern 8 T0 2 J Mages

- 12 declared - . SETTING: 7-2 Fillou Du Bois, 9-2 Bullybey, 9-1 Super Mac, Head For Habb-en, 6-1 Smart Guy, 7-1 Irish Profic, 16-1 Rush Reflection, 20-1 others

FORM VERDICT

A competitive novice handices with quite a few clearly open to improvement, including Filica Du Bolis, Ballybey, Belvento and the birthered first time Guignot Du Cachet. But with the Richard Rowe isam finding some form, the vote goes to IRISH FROUC to turn the tables on his Followance compusors Super

3.10 HEDDY SIMPSON MEMORIAL MAIDEN CHASE (CLASS E) £4,000 added

— a unumen — BETTING: 7-4 Johnsgoodso, 9-4 Colonal Colt, 9-2 Charoles Boy, 8-1 Heidiquescotictus, 9-1 Mr Miller, 16-1 Kilosan Bay

3m 2f 110yds

-3433P CHEROKEE BOY (82) 8 Ryal 7 11 8.

OSD-U4 KULORAN BAY (15) R Rose 8 1 3 ...

00-665 IRISH FROUC 277 R Rome 7 11 3 ... 623JP COME ON PENNY (74) D Geodolio 8 5050-P BELYENTO (224) J Gillord 7 10 13 ...

3.50 TRENTHAM GARDENS HANDICAP

פעטוו 1 4F842 SURI SURFER (FR) (17) (C) H Daly 11 11 11

- 5 declared -Mahmum weight: 10st. True handkop weight: Dangarous Guest Est 12th. stize, 11-4 Dengerous Guest, 9-2 Sun Surier, 5-

Cool Spring, 7-1 Freddie Mack FORM VERDICT

ter Rastus – the only runner in obviously good form is Busly to be a warm order on his first run in a handicap, but It can pay to persevere with PREDDIE MUCK. The nine-year old has ground to make up on Sun Surfer on course runn lest month, but had a lot of use made of him that day an had looked out of sorts over fences shortly beforehend. He has had a breek since, was in good form in the autumn and

4.20 ST MODWEN HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS F) £5,000 added to stakes 3m 2f

-POP33 KENTUCKY GOLD (13) Mrs L Willerson 10-10-4. Mr D Sherbock

- 8 deciared -BETTBKC: 11-8 High Island, 7-2 The Eans, 4-1 Boro HEI, 11-2 Kentucky

FORM VERDICT

we HIGH ISLAND is the one to best here, with Ken tucky Gold a plausible denger. A 10th pull in the weights gives the latter a fighting chance, but High Island is open to a fair

FORM VERDICT

A moderate contest in which nothing makes much appeal. On the somewhat hisky assumption that his in-form trainer has got him back in something resembling the form of last see-son's Leicester second, JOBSAGOOUIN makes most

3.40 STREBEL 'NATIONAL HUNT' NOVICE HURDLE (D) £4,000 2m 2f 110yds

4-35P RAZOR RUDDOCK (11) R Rose 5 tt 0.

FORM VERDICT

Several long-term prospects from leading yerds here, includ-ing Nicely Relaxed, Phoenix Phlyer and Selford Gusy, but best to stick with those with solid form. Kerny's Cala has been

knocking on the door but may have to play a minor role again behind the penalised pair Powder Hound and SMINT. With the Josh Gifford string now in batter form than it has been

all sesson, Smint may be able to follow up his recent C&D

4.10 CHARLTON HUNT HUNTER CHASE

2 R-059 RYTON RIM (R82) (CD) Mrs S Odel 14 12 6., Mr A Windle (S) 4320 VERDE LIMA (183) (SF) R J Smith 7 12 6... Mr A Enters (S) 8 4 425-41 WARREN BOY (107) T L. Jones 9 12 6... Mrs A Enters (S) 8 447-52 COOLYANN LADY (249) W Haldey 50 12 1... Mrs S Hornis (7) 6 PP3P2P CHEATER (168) Mrs I. Richerch 8 12 0 Mr R Ferristni V

(CLASS H) £3,000 added 2m 3f PFP1P- RED RORY (287) Miss D McCarthy 10 12 6, July B. Hischcotz (7)

ed, 8-1 Nobile Athlata, 9-1 Placentz Phiyer, 12-1 Selliord Cosy, 20-1

4.50 RACECOURSE CONDITIONALS NOV-ICE HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS E) 1 PAIRAS (22) (D) M Hammond 5 ti 11

52P/04 SLIDE ON (17) (D) P Evens 9 11 1 0454 CARIAD CYMRU (48) R Extra 5 11 0 0-0000 ROCKY MY BOY (46) Mrs S Smith 5 10 10 BETTING: 2-5 Patras, 5-1 Cariad Cyraru, 6-1 Rocky My Boy, 14-1 Side On

FORM VERDICT PATRAS stands out here. This well-regarded ex-French Flat winner has the potential to rate a good bit better than his lowly handicap mark of 90 and faces weak opposition. He should polement debut gains without too much trouble. Carlad

5.20 DONCASTER SALES/EBF MARES OPEN NH FLAT RACE (CLASS H) £1.750 2m RE ACKWATTER BAY J Neville 5 11 0 _ _ _

3 ESTER'S CERL (17) K Bel 6 11 C. Mi Ala ____D Q'Sufficien (7)

- 10 declared -BETTING: 5-2 Roman Uproac, 3-1 Good Job, 9-2 Here's Hoping, 6-1 Milady Ans., 15-2 Ester's Girl, 12-1 Sally Lightfoot, 14-1 others

FORM VERDICT It will be interesting to see if Blackwater Bay attracts any support, but MILADY ANA may be worth another chance to

recoup Fornwell losses. Estar's Girl and Roman Uproer lock best of the remander. The selections stablemate, Here's Hopling, should be watched in the market

— 14 cocared — BETTING: 3-1 Warren Boy, 11-2 Verde Lune, 6-1 Europick The Lud, 7-1 Hai-hum Tarn, 8-1 Cochemn Ludy, 10-1 Chamba, Toth Forza, 20-7 others

FORM VERDICT Werren Boy comes here in good heart following a port-to-point victory and when he's in form it can pay to follow hen. Tom Fuzza botts good on some of his point-to-point form also but is not guaranteed to run his race after such a long break and preference is for course winner EUROLINK THE LAD who had much more ability than any of these in the past and whose recent run in a point gives him the look of a solid each-

4.40 GRAND SPLENDOUR HANDICAP HUR-DLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 2m 6f 110yds

1030RF DANGER BABY (35) P Bowen 9 12 D.

14001 FESCOT (25) C Morock 7 11 6 ________ D Gallagher 21F2P PIPER'S ROCK (83) (8F) Miss E Levelle 8 11 1 ____ 8 Califord 4-\$253 WALTER'S DESTRY (12) (D) C Michel 7 11 0 . Sophie Michel 9 00004 DAMS (PI) (22) JUNESTON V D 12 JUNESTON V D 13 DOSAS (NOSSDOWN TROK (108) (C) F J Smith 5 10 T J Goldstein (S) T CP-445 TWO TO TANGO (26) N Twiton-Deves 6 10 T J J Tizzind 12 60040 DARINIK KONG (12) (CD) M Botton 9 10 7 J L Appel 4 44260 SUPPRESE TROGOLOVITE (S) (Nortex 7 10 6.J R Kommight 4 44260 SUPPRESE TROGOLOVITE (S) (Nortex 7 10 6.J R Kommight 4 44260 SUPPRESE TROGOLOVITE (S) (D) M J Roberts 7 11 0. Mr R Fonistal (S)

All Michael Weight: 10st. True handiscp weight: Wilcost Ser 13th. BETTING: 180-90 Charlie Bantus; 7-9 Fleori, 5-1 Saint.Jou, 6-1 Rusey Boy, 9-1 Might Thyrus, 10-1 Two To Tango, 11-1 Walter's Desting, 12-1 others FORM VERDICT

Quite a competitive race. Fitiacot is much respected but man onal preference is for progressive dual wenter CHARLIE BANGER, This shorter trip will sut after he looked a bistant non-stayer over 3m at Newcestie last time.

CHELSEA LOOK the only scrap SPORTS BETTING

it is "no offers" Nottingham Forest to go down, but the other two tickets to Palookaville are up for grabs and a study of the remaining fixtures suggests ter could be surprise strugglers.

drawing Bologna. In the Cup- Cook, HWARDON, LLABORNE, Starley, Tion

BY IAN DAVIES

	C	H	L	s	T
i Utel	8-15	1-2	4-9	8-15	44
تعد	2-1	. 2-1	94	2-1	34
lena .	15-2	3-1	8-1	13-2	4-1
45	28-1	33-1	50-1	50-1	50-1
					_

EUROPEAN CUP C # L 5 11-5 2-1 2-1 150 2-1 Man Utal

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Mayern Munich 11-5 11-4 9-4 5-2 9-4 11-4 5-2 5-2 3-1 3-1 10-3 10-3 4-1 10-3 10-3 **UEFA CUP**

34 114 114 114 52 3-1 10-3 3-1 7-2 7-2 tice Madrid 5-1 4-1 7-2 5-2 10-3 CUP WINNERS' CUP 5-6 8-11 10-11 4-5 8-11 15-8 2-1 7-4 2-1 7-4

WEEKEND POOLS FORECAST

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP GROUP FIVE

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP

GROUP THREE 2 Northern Ireland v Germany . Not on coupon: Turkey v Mold

GROUP NINE

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE 4 *Off: Bury v Sunderland...... 5 *Off: Grimsby v Wolves 6 *Off: Ipswich v Stockport 7 *Off: Port Vale v Watford

Priday: Shelfield Utd v Oxford Utd; Tran-Bradford City, Portsmouth v Barnsley SECOND DIVISION Bournemouth v Colchester,......... Bristol Rovers v Notts County ...

i 4 Reading v Manchester Cli 15 "Off: Walsali v Fulham ... DIVISION

10 Chesterfield v Blackpool ...

18 Brighton v Barnet 19 Cardelf v Carlisle 20 Chester v Plymouth...... 21 Rotherham v Scunthorpe NATIONWIDE CONFERENCE 23 Barrow v Kidderminster ...

PREMIER DIVISION 24 Colwyn Bay v Actrington Stanley 25 Off: Emley v WinsfordVold 26 Guiseley v Marine 27 Hyde v Bamber Bridge

DR MARTENS LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION 35 Grantham v Dorche 39 Salisbury v Rothwell

day: Worcester v Boston Utd RYMAN LEAGUE

41 Aldershot v Slough ... 1
42 Basingstoke v Walton & Hersham .1
48 Bishop's Stortford v Hampton ... 1
45 Bishop's Stortford v Hampton ... 1
45 Enfield v Carshalton ... 2 Friday: Purfect v Chesham, Sweden genham & Recordage v Aylesbury. TEN HOBIES: Ipswich v Stockport; Bristol Rovers v Notts County; Bournernout

FIVE AMAYS: Port Vale v Watford: Lu-ton v Giffingham; Hyde Utd v Bamber Bridge; Leigh RWI v Gateshead: Gravesend v Sutton Utd.

POUR DRAWS: England v Poland; North-ern Ireland v Germany; Scotland v Bosnia; Grimsby v Wolves. Pools forecast selections by Ian Davies

***** 1

1 6PM

Graham sees hard road ahead

BY NICK HARRIS

WHEN GEORGE GRAHAM was unveiled as Christian Gross's successor at Tottenham last October, his ambition appeared modest. "The aim is to be in the top six within two years," he said at the time. Less than six months later the White Hart Lane trophy cabinet has been furnished with its first piece of silverware since the FA Cup in 1991 but Graham still admits that his building process has barely started

Of course I want it [Sunday's Worthington Cup win over Leicester! to be a stepping stone but the way the game is going it is now very difficult to assemble a squad of players capable of taking on the teams at the top," Graham said. "Next year it's going to be even harder for the top teams. With up to 17 games in Europe, 38 in the premier league, two cups, you need a massive squad."

Finding money to spend should not prove a problem for a man who is renowned for being astute on the transfer market. So far, he has spent only £6.5m (on Tim Sherwood from Blackburn and Mauricio Taricco from Ipswich Town).

likely to make Spurs' chairman, Alan Sugar, feel that securing Graham's services for four years (at a reported cost of £6m) was a good piece of business, and that any further investment will reap dividends. David Ginola, man-marked

out of the match against Leicester, said that new players were now a priority for next season's European campaign.

"I remember at the beginning of the season we tried to sign Patrick Kluivert and players like that, but they were not interested because Tottenham were not involved in any European competition." Ginola said.

"We have a structure in place to be a great team and it is up to the chairman to make the right choice - sometimes you have to think about taking your money out of your pocket. Nothing is impossible. We have to carry on working and we have to be stronger.

When Graham took over from Don Howe at Arsenal in March 1986, he brought in Alan



The vest is yet to come: David Ginola celebrates Sunday's Worthington Cup victory with the fans. To their disappointment, they did not get the shirt ... or the vest Reuters

placed faith in a pair of youngsters, Paul Merson and Tony Adams. His first trophy (as with Spurs) was the League Cup – a 2-1 victory over Liverpool - a year later.

The end of Graham's first full season as the manager at Highbury saw the Gunners finish fourth in the table, and two years later they took the title, a feat repeated in 1991. They won the FA Cup and League Cup double in 1993 and the Euro-

helm in September 1996 on a manifesto of "total commitment, hard work and passion" and installed David O' Leary as his assistant. "I will be working delved into the transfer market with the defence first," Graham said, not surprisingly given the Molenaar for £400,000 and £1.1m "1-0 to the Arsenal" reputation he had acquired at Highbury.

"I don't think it would be right to dash off into the transfer martime, and Spurs supporters will be heartened to recall that the building on at Elland Road.

At Leeds, Graham took the transformation Graham made was successful. Nigel Martyn gained confidence in goal, Lucas Radebe's marking talents were nurtured and Graham to buy Gunnar Halle and Robert respectively.

The results may not have been pretty, but the side was built solidly from the back and ket straight away," he said at the lay the foundations on which O'Leary is now successfully

"I enjoy doing it and if I will to win that had rubbed off keep doing it right it doesn't on the players. "What's worry me what the fans, the players and even the club think about me," Graham said after players, the strength of the Sunday's win, and his new charges appear to agree with for each other. him, despite his reputation as being a cold manager not in the habit of praising his players.

Ian Walker, drafted into Kevin Keegan's England squad for Saturday's Euro 2000 match against Poland, said yesterday

changed under him? Everything really - the attitude of the team. We're working a lot more "He's a winner and that rubs

off on to the players. He has this reputation and we really fear losing games now because we don't want to incur the wrath of the boss. It's just nice to end up part of a team that can win

the most of them." Sunday's goalscorer, Allan

chances and you have to make

Nielsen, added: "Before he came there was self-belief with individuals but not as a team. Hopefully this is just the start. We are back in Europe and if you want to be a big club that's probably the most important

Quite how successful Spurs can become remains to be seen. A top-six side within two years, perhaps?

Lennon issues exodus threat

BY JOHN CURTIS

THE LEICESTER CITY midfielder Neil Lennon has said there could be a mass exodus of players from Filbert Street after their Worthington Cup final defeat by Tottenham

The Northern Ireland international said it was now inevitable" that players out of contract this summer such as Kasey Keller, Rob Ullathorne and Pontus Kaamark would leave. Kaamark has alceaded agreed a move back house in Sweden with AIK Stockholm cause he is homesick and missing. ing his six-year-old daughter In addition, Lennon himself

and the striker Emile Heskey have only one more season to run of their contracts while, at the other of the scale, the skipper Steve Walsh and Jony Cottee are now veterans. Yesterday he urged the

board to invest money to strengthen the squad after claiming promises made to him when he signed a new contract this season about bringing in talent had not been kept. "Sunday could have been

the swan-song for a few of the lads. It is a worry that the side might break up - and I think it is inevitable that a few of the lads are going to leave now," he said. "It will be a massive blow if we lose players of the calibre of Keller and Ullathorne but, even if we had won the cup, I'm not so sure these guys would have staved.

He added: "We'd have had Europe as a carrot, but we are not exactly going to win the Uefa Cup and these lads are considering their futures. We need those players, we really do, because the squad is already thin enough.

"To lose that calibre of player for nothing will be a big blow," he added. "The club have got to invest money in players. If you look at Wimbledon they have gone and spent . £7m on a player [John Hartson from West Ham]. That's what we are up against."

Frustrated Smith sees Campbell as saviour

WALTER SMITH yesterday pleaded for an end to Everton's takeover tribulations as he sought to face up to the relegation struggle ahead.

The Goodison manager has wrangling over the Toffees' future, which has been continuing since November. Now, after successive defeats by the Premiership's top two clubs, Everton are in trouble, and Smith wants action from the people who run the club. "The situation is having a detrimental effect on the club," he said, "Someone has to come out and say either the club is going to be sold or it is staying in the same hands as Smith has sat helplessly

watching as the vice-chairman, Bill Kenwright, has spent the

By Alan Nixon

together a consortium to raise mer chairman Peter Johnson's unlikely to happen before the end of the season.

The matter must be resolved, or we must be told what my point of view this cannot go on. It was incredible to read Alex [Ferguson, the Manchester United manager] complaining that his club is in limbo - when you look a Everton we have been like this since November. It's about time that was settled they stood and which direction the club was going. It has all

been very frustrating."

tempt to bring the player bome after he was branded a "cannibal" and "discoloured" by the club's president, Mehmet Ali is going on," Smith said. "From Yilnaz. Stretford hopes Trabzonspor will allow Campbell to leave for the rest of the season while a political dispute that has reached Fifs, the game's world governing body, is resolved. It is understood that the

clubs have agreed in principle that a loan deal would be the and people knew exactly where best solution - but Trabzonspor are demanding a small fee to allow Campbell out on loan.

Less than a year ago Camp-

squad is the striker Kevin for little outlay at a vital time for £1.1m transfer to Charlton with-Campbell, who has not played his team. Everton will lose their in the next 48 hours, with medhim out for over a month

Blackburn Rovers have no such financial strictures and yesterday took their spending to £18m, with the signing of the midfielder Lee Carsley from Derby County. The 25-year-old Republic of Ireland international signed a four-year deal after moving for £3.375m. The Sheffield United de-

fender David Holdsworth's move to Birmingham City collapsed yesterday over personal terms, although it may yet be revived before the transfer deadline on Thursday. The

for a month since falling out with captain Don Hutchison for the ical and personal terms break new ground by signing

the signing of the Brazilian midfielder Fumaca today, despite the midfielder having suffered concussion in Colchester's defeat by Manchester City on Saturday.

The Dutch international striker Michael Mols has confirmed he will join Rangers at the end of the season on a fourvear contract.

Ipswich Town have completed the signing of Jim Magilton from Sheffield Wednesday in a deal which could eventually be worth £1m. The Northern Íreland midfielder signed up

turn to in an effort to expand his would be signing a top striker while, is poised to finalise his loan spell with the First Division

around £50m to buy out the former chairman Peter Johnson's Campbell's agent, Paul Stret68 per-cent holding. That now is ford, flew out yesterday in an at
the Turkish club, Trabzonspor.

next three games with a ban apparently having been agreed.

The Barnsley manager, John hung from Hong Kong. It is re
ford, flew out yesterday in an at
hamstring injury that may rule

Hendrie, is hoping to complete ported from the far east that the Terriers have requested international clearance for the player, who has also had a spell on trial with Southampton. If the transfer is completed

it would be the first time in 30 years that a Hong Kong Chinese player had been signed by an English professional club. The Terriers are also trying to sign the Stockport County captain, Mike Flynn, for £600,000.

Bolton are trying to sign the Spanish winger Francisco Pirri from Atletico Madrid. He arrived at the club for talks yesterday and will join on loan for



Ribbeck: Under pressure

But the healthy state of af-

stance, are rumoured to be heading for Munich next season for astronomical sums. But, however good they are, they will be lucky to get a game every other Saturday. Only three members of the present Bayern squad have what could be de-

Fan violence mars derby in Belgrade

YUGOSLAVIA

THE YUGOSLAVIAN national team will find out today if Uefa, European football's ruling body, will allow them to play Saturday's scheduled European Championship qualifier against Croatia in Belgrade.

The first football match between the two nations since the break-up of the old Yugoslavia and the subsequent war was always going to be a tense occasion, even without the threat of Nato air strikes against Serbia. Now it seems likely that the fixture will be postponed until late April or moved to a neutral venue – although it is hard to envisage any other country being willing to host the Yugoslavs and the Croats.

Events at the weekend, though, showed that football violence can erupt in Yugoslavia without the presence of people from other countries. On Saturday rival fans clashed before and during the 2-2 derby draw between Red Star and Partizan Belgrade.

Supporters of both clubs and police officers were injured – one fan was stabbed. Visiting Partizan fans threw seating on to the pitch during the game and there was more trouble near the end of the match, when four Red Star supporters invaded the pitch and had to be forcibly removed by police.

Two of the top teams in Croatia also met at the weekend in an encounter marred by violence. The new North Stand at Croatia Zagreb's Maksimir stadium was opened prior to the 1-0 win over Hajduk Split - but the home fans ruined the celebration by ripping out new plastic seats, which they used to attack police.

NEXT WEDNESDAY'S European Championship qualifier between Russia and Andorra



AROUND THE WORLD EDITED BY RUPERT METCALF

of Uefa, from Vladikavkaz to the Lokomotiv stadium in Moscow, after a terrorist bomb explosion in the city's main market place killed more than 50 people last Friday.

The capital of the Russian region of North Ossetia, Vladikavkaz is just 35 miles from war-torn Chechnya, and there were security concerns over the fixture even prior to the bomb explosion.

"Vladikavkaz will have to wait for another time, perhaps when the situation there is more stable," the president of the Russian Football Union. Vyacheslav Koloskov, said. **ITALY**

DINO ZOFF, Italy's coach, will have to field a new strike force for the European Championship qualifiers against Denmark in Copenhagen on Saturday and Belarus in Ancona tomorrow week.

Lazio's Christian Vieri, who scored five goals at the World Cup last year, broke a toe in Serie A action on Sunday, With Alessandro del Piero, Italy's other top striker, out for six months with a knee injury. Zoff has turned to the Internazionale veteran Roberto Baggio and a largely inexperienced cast of fellow strikers.

Francesco Totti and Marco Delvecchio, team-mates with Roma, were joined by Parma's Enrico Chiesa and Filippo Inzaghi of Juventus - a quartet whose average age is 25 - in the squad named yesterday will be moved, at the request for both games by Zoff.

One player that Smith may Blades' Graham Stuart, meanpast four months trying to put bell was rated at £4m, so Smith Germany now in danger of becoming a nation of losers

GERMANY EXPECTS. The national side is travelling to Belfast for Saturday's crucial European Championship qualifier against Northern Ireland.

The Ulstermen have been difficult opponents in the past, winning home and away against the star-studded West German team of the early 1980s. A home win in Belfast on Saturday would not be seen as an upset. The German nation expects to lose.

Losing has become something of a habit of late. After the 3-0 defeat to Croatia in the World Cup, the Germans went down 1-0 to Turkey in their first European qualifier. They struggled to beat Moldova in their second qualifier, with a flattering 3-1 scoreline. Then came the ill-fated trip to Florida, where the national team lost 3-0 to the United States, and made hard work of a 3-3 draw against a poor Colombia.

The omens for Saturday are not good. The players, those that are still prepared to put their boots on for their country, are unhappy. The coach, Erich Saturday's European Championship qualifier in Belfast will test Erich Ribbeck's side, writes Imre Karacs from Berlin

been in his job for less than seven months. The big clubs hate him, too, and 70 per cent of professional footballers recently polled by Kicker magazine have declared him "unfit" Ribbeck has this uncanny

man in Germany, and he has

ability to bring the worst out of his players. Take Oliver Kahn, the Bayern Munich goalkeeper who has just set a new German record of 723 minutes without conceding a goal. At club level, that is. In international matches Kahn's reflexes are sloth-like and his fingers turn to butter. Others do not even bother to turn up. Bayern's playmaker Stefan Effenberg, regarded as the player of the season, will not don the national jersey because of an ancient row with the fans.

Even Ribbeck's worst enemies admit that he is not to blame for all the ills that have afflicted German football. He in-Ribbeck, is the most unpopular herited a Dad's Army in retreat

just as Germany was confronted with a barren generation. Perhaps there are no natural successors to the likes of Lothar Matthaus, who, at 38, might well be the only player to shine on Belfast's turf on Sat-

Germans argue whether their country is becoming or has already become a second-rate sense of crisis that influential insiders are calling on Ribbeck to sack his entire squad and start building anew. "It is better to make a radical cut and take the chance that we'll miss one or two World Cups," suggests Paul Breitner, the man who thinks he should be Germany's coach. Breitner is bitter because he was overlooked for the post when Berti Vogts walked out last September Ribbeck was the third candidate, after the first

down the honour

two approached by the German federation turned

critical of the bureaucrats who run German football. He accuses them of causing the current malaise by failing to nurture young talent. Hence his proposal to pack the national eam with players fresh out of their teens, come what may.

"Are we supposed to field the Under-21 team in future?" -Ribbeck retorts. He is damned if he does, and damned if he does not. Caught between the pressure to succeed and the clamour for young players to be given a chance, the coach is trying to do both. Two youngsters are included in Saturday's squad: midfielders Michael Ballack and Marco Reich. Great things are expected of the two lads from Kaiserslautern, though maybe not this time. Rising talents tested out in previous games have sunk without a trace.

And that, say the experts, is the problem. The youngsters are lacking match practice not semi-final with Dynamo Klev Breitner will probably never only at the national level, but promises to be a joy to behold. scribed as an assured place.

also within the Bundeslion. Every week, the German equivalents of Michael Owen are competing for a place with seasoned internationals from Croatia or Poland, not to mention the truly world-class boys from Brazil. Stuttgart's starting lineup last Saturday against Mönchengladbach, for instance, included eight foreign players.

With so much time spent sitting on the benches, it is not surprising that the novices disappoint in the international matches. But maybe their time will come. There is a team consisting almost entirely of natives, and they are not doing that badly. All but two of Bayern's players are Germans, many under 25.

teams is 14 points ahead of the potential. rest in the league, and has just beaten second-placed Kaiserslautern in the European Cup quarter-finals with an aggregate score of 6-0. Bayern may well go all the way by playing now here is a shock - attractive, attacking football. The coming



fairs in Munich may be part of the cause of Germany's ailment. The domestic championship this season has been one-sided from the outset, with Bayern iosing only two matches so far. They have been able to do this partly by hoarding promising young players, thus, say the critics, preventing Yet this most German of them from developing their Ballack and Reich, for in-

RUSSIA

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Cognition in 189 JO the Parker or the fielding Especial to a contribution. Eggister to have even Mickey maliné ត្រូវបានការការបានបានការ Cale to the So much orniati i guide de la completa con

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in the second and third क्षेत्रक करता । स्थापन स्थ क्षांचा प्रचार (१४) होता स्वाहित्या bathur Sorelle Kayne, the alean manager, said the pi pic penin beatel. a shed carned him marks for technical ment a 20 year old from

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Hay injury hampers Leeds

Cut Challenge Cup semi-final against Bradford on Sunday. BY DAVE HADFIELD The in-form second-rower broke a hand in the defeat by Wigan on Friday night and will be on the sidelines for three or

The news is a blow to Leeds' eparations, but their coach, Graham Murray, hopes that his other casualties will be fit for the match at Huddersfield. Adrian Morley Anthony Farrell Richie Blackmore, Brad Godden and Marcus St Hilaire are all fighting for fitness. "I am hopeful that they will all be fit and I will be giving them as long as possible before finalising the team." Murray said.

RUGBY LEAGUE

The other semi-finalists have their own injury-problems, with knee injury victim Danny Orr regarded as doubtful for Castleford's side to meet London on Saturday.

"We're hoping he can come through," said his coach, Stuart Raper. "We will give him until Friday and keep our fingers

Raper is more confident that Dean Sampson and his brother, Aaron Raper, will be available after also picking up injuries in the match at War-

London's prop, Grant Young, put off by the size of his contract the Rugby Football League, had an operation yesterday to pin the leg fracture that will rule him out for the season, while another front-rower, Darren Bradstreet, is to have a shoulder reconstruction this week. Bradstreet was also thought to be out for the season, but said vesterday: "The surgeon has told me that I could be back with six

That still leaves the Broncos desperately short of props in the medium term but a move for Phil Adamson, who appears to be on the fringes at St Helens, is not likely to be followed up. The former Penrith prop cannot get into Saints' team, but London have been

rounds of matches to play."

at Knowsley Road.

Andy Gregory has again pulled back from the brink after threatening to resign as coach of Salford. Gregory, the longestserving coach in the British game, said he was considering his future after Salford's defeat at Wakefield on Sunday. "I said what I did because I care about the club," he said yesterday. "I was totally, totally dismayed, but a lot of the lads have asked me not to leave, along with the coaching staff. All I want now is to put a team out that takes two points off Warrington in the

next game. That can't come soon enough for me."

has rebranded itself in a way that emphasises its custodianship of the code. It has launched a new logo, along with a slogan, "Love this Game," that echoes the National Rugby League's "I love my footy," with which it has tried to win back hearts and

minds in Australia.

"It seeks to unite everyone who loves rugby league, in whatever way, in whatever part of the country, however the game is played," said the RFL's chief executive. Neil Tunnicliffe, of the campaign.
The former Halifax coach



Brand loyalty: League's new logo, launched yesterday

derson, who has been in charge of the Melbourne Storm's successful entry into the NRL, takes over from Wayne Bennett, who resigned because of the Brisbane Broncos' bad start to and Australian Test winger, the season after just two Tests. The game's governing body, Chris Anderson, has become Others, such as Phil Gould and

his country's new coach. An- the former Hull and Bradford coach, Brian Smith, ruled themselves out of consideration, but Anderson said: "After 30 years in the game, coaching Australia is the highest honour I could have.

"I can't understand why people wouldn't want it."

McRae sets a strong pace

RALLYING

COLIN McRAE'S remorseless pacesetting locked him on course for a second successive rally victory as he opened up a big advantage in Portugal yesterday. McRae proved his Safari Rally triumph in the new Ford Focus was no fluke as he won

four of the eight special stages. He ended the second day leading Richard Burns by just over 49 seconds as Britain enjoyed another successful campaign on the Iberian peninsular McRae's advantage is all the more incredible, given that he won the event last year for Subaru by just 2.1 seconds.

The Scot did most of the damage early on as he quickly built on his overnight lead of 0.4 seconds from the short superspecial stage before ending the day with another best time.

McRae defied his own fears and those of his Welsh co-driver Nicky Grist that the Focus was still too heavy to challenge for a victory as he powered over the terrain in northern Portugal. He sent the thousands of fans by the side of the gravel roads scurrying away to escape the dust blown up in his wake.

McRae, 10 points behind the world champion Tommi Makinen in the standings, knows Burns is likely to be his biggest threat given the Subaru always performs well in Portugal.

Burns needs a podium finish to boost his own title hopes having scored just two points in the previous three rallies this season. The 28-year-old from Oxford grabbed back second place on the final stage from Sainz but is less than a second ahead of the Spaniard. Burns had leaned from 12th to second on the opening stage of the day and was always thereabouts, setting one fastest stage time as well as a joint best with McRae.

Sainz is just ahead of his Toyota team-mate Didier Auriol with Marcus Gronholm fifth for Mitsubishi. Makinen is ninth after transmission problems.

Britain **become** top dogs in Cup

BRITAIN ARE developing into top dogs against the United States for the Davis Cup tie in Birmingham on the Easter weekend at such a rapid rate that it is starting to become slightly ominous for the home side. Yesterday Tom Gullikson, the United States captain, even pleaded with the American media to give wholehearted support to his team. So much for the gung-ho spirit.

Gullikson's rallying call was made under clear blue skies on Ocean Drive, South Beach, Miami. Last month a customer was murdered at the Clevelander, which is down the road from where Gianni Versace drank his last coffee.

The Stars and Stripes and Union Jack were draped side y side on the Clevelander's ing up, given the controversy ience, in front of a table over Sampras and Agassi, plus adorned by a miniature of the revelation that the team's bowl. Franklin D Roosevelt his job. "I think sometimes was in his first term in the White House last time Britain defeated America in the competition, Fred Perry leading a 5-0 whitewash in the Challenge Round at Wimbledon in 1935. But Gullikson was taking no chances, especially since Pete Sampras had started a chorus think playing for your country of "Americans don't care about should always be your highest Davis Cup" when declaring priority."

BY JOHN ROBERTS in Key Biscayne, Florida

himself unavailable, along with Andre Agassi.

After confirming that Jan-Michael Gambill, he of the matinée idol looks, and Alex O'Brien, a doubles specialist, had been selected for his squad along with the seasoned Jim Courier and Todd Martin, Gullikson said: "My closing the the porch of the art deco comments are for the Ameri-Clevelander restaurant on can media. I'd really like everybody to really get behind the team in this tie. Be really positive. That would be a great thing for you to do." His words prompted a round of

Gullikson was asked how controversy can act as a positive," the captain said. "It can make vou stronger increase your resolve. Jan-Michael and Alex are committed to the Davis Cup. Everybody has their own reasons for playing or for not being available to play. I



Patty Schnyder, of Switzerland, plays a backhand recovery shot in her 6-3, 6-3 third-round defeat of Croatia's Mirjana Lucic yesterday

when Britain last played the 1978, and was always passionate about playing for his country - outrageously so at times - has been making noises from the senior tour about being

good enough still to play doubles for the team. Gullikson was asked if had taken McEnroe seriously as a contender. "Not really," he said.

Adopting a light-hearted approach, Gullikson said: "The

John McEnroe, who made other day I was having a coffee ham, Gullikson said the squad anything but false. He has been the squad's morale was stand- his Davis Cup singles debut with Tim Henman and I was trying to talk him into playing United States, in the final at the tie here at the Lipton site, Mission Hills Country Club, because the weather is great he didn't buy into it."

Turning towards Gambiil and O'Brien, Gullikson said: "We just happened to have caught a couple of stragglers walking down South Beach." He added that both players were raring to go against "England" and realised that "the English" are very difficult oppo-

As for playing in Birming-

would be setting off next Saturday evening, and would be landing "somewhere in England". He was not sure if there might be advisable for the United States Tennis Association to remind supporters planning to travel that this

Birmingham is not the one in Britain's captain, David Lloyd, has been in the game long enough to know it would be unwise to go into the tie with a false sense of security. Indeed,

Lloyd's sense of security is

positive about the match ever since the draw was made, and will take necessary stock of the opposition.

cans, with the head-to-head

record against the combined force of the opposition giving them a 13-2 advantage. Martin leads Henman 3-1 and Greg Rusedski 4-1; Gambill leads Henman 2-0, but has yet to play Rusedski; Courier leads Henman 1-0 and leads Rused-

The one lingering doubt for Gullikson concerns Martin's

fitness. Having been troubled by a strained stomach muscle since the Australian Open in January, the tail serve-volleyer decided to give the Lipton order to rest for Birmingham. "Todd's doing quite weil," Gullikson said. "He's had a good week of working out his prob-

He added: "I can guarantee we are going to go over there and we are going to work very hard. We are going to have some fun; and we are all going to represent the United States

TODAY'S NUMBER

The shot (in miles per hour) that won Dundee United's Scott McCullough the title of fastest shot in the Scottish Premier League. It was measured on police traffic equipment.

Britons slip up in qualifiers

ICE SKATING

BRITAIN MADE a poor start on the opening day of the World Fig-ure Skating Championships in Helsinki with both Clive Shorten and Neil Wilson failing to qualify for the second and third stages of the men's competition. Shorten was too disappointed to talk but Sorelle Kayne, the

British team manager, said the

25-year-old from London was

shattered" by his poor performance which earned him marks of 3.8-4.8 for technical merit and 4.2-4.9 for presentation. Wilson, a 20-year-old from Northern Ireland, gained marks of 3.6-4.8 for technical merit and 3.8-5.1 for presentation but was more philosophical about his failure. "I'm quite pleased about the way I skated." he said. "I started a bit ten-

tatively but then eased up. I'm

just glad to be here after a full

year off ice with injuries." Elsewhere in the competition. Russia led the way as expected, with Yevgeny Plushenko winning ope qualifying group and the defending world champion, Alexei Yagudin, winning the other. Michael Weiss. the American champion, came in second to Plushenko and the former Olympic champion, Alexei Urmanov, was second to Yagudin.

A record-breaking day saw six skaters complete the fourrevolution jump, the most ever

NBA: Chicago 95 Boston 92 (or); Toronto 85 New York 81 (or); LA Clippers 100 Min-nesona 8; Detroit 104 (trah 101 (or); Ceve-land 88 New Jersey 85; Charlotte 94 Milwoulke 87, Derwer 102 Seattle 98; Port-land 91 Philadelphia 75, LA Lakers 115 Or-Lands 1106. EASTERN CONFERENCE E PCT 6 750 8 .692 10 583 11 .577 14 .417 15 348 20 167 PCT GB PCT .800 667 522 13 480 8 15 423 97/ 14 417 97/ 22 .083 177/.

Scotland's Drew Docherty will challenge for the British super-ban-tamweight tide against the holder, Patrick Mullins, in Peterborough on 24 April.

CRICKET

P A de Silva b Agarkar H P Tilakaratne st Mongia b Chopra "A Ranatunga ibw b Ganguly.... U D U Chandana b Kumble 184 8-201 9-205. Sowilling: Srinath 7-0-42-0; Agarkar 6-0-14-3; Kumble 7-0-41-1; Shukki 4-0-32-0; Chopra 10-0-49-2; Ganguly 4-0-21-4. Main of the Matche S C Ganguly Uarphress: K 5 Girlcharan and V Gupte. INDIA WON BY 80 RURS.

FOOTBALL FOOTBALL

NATIONINDE LEAGUE Phrture changes
Fri 16 Aprils Barnsley v Sunderland (previously Ser 17 April)
TRAY SOURD (v Denmark, Copenhages,
Set 27 Mac, and v Belares, Ancoes, Mad
31): Goalhaepers: G Buffon (Parma), L

Marchegland (Lato), Defenders: C Panuaci (Real Madrid), A Nesta (Lato), F Casnastaro (Parma), M Bellano (Juvertus), P

Maldini (Milan), M Serena (Atletico

Macroj, an terroceau (Horenson), Maggio (Par-Reidesta D Passer (Parma), D Baggio (Par-ma), L Di Blagio (Roma), E Di Francesco (Roma), A Coste (Juventus), S Cols (Forentia), G Glanstbedda (Julinse), For-mardus F Inzagio (Juventus), M Delnec-cibio (Roma), E Chiesa (Parma), R Baggio (Internazionale), F Rotti (Roma).

GOLF
BAY MILL INVITATIONAL (Orlando)
Landing final scores (US unless stated):
274 T Herron 65 89 57 12, T Lehman 69
68 56 71 (Herron won play-off of second
extra hole), 275 D Love 69 66 67 71.2 276
R Dannon 70 71 68 67; 280 C Parry (Aus)
72 67 72 69, S Hoch 71 70 70 69 D Pride
68 71 70 71, P Michelson 74 67 68 71, B
Estes 70 70 68 72, B Chamblee 70 69 67
74; 281 S Pate 69 69 71 72, V Singh (Fift)
69 70 70 72, 282 K Triplet 70 71 70 71,
R Allenby (Aus) 72 66 71 73, P Stewart 75
65 68 74; 283 D Prox (Sa) 75 68 75 65,
H Sutton 74 69 72 68 J Leonard 69 71 69
74; 284 A Magee 69 67 77 71, F Lickliter
71 70 72 77, C Rohn 73 66 69 73, D Toms
71 71 68 74, Selectantic 285 G Wishe (NZ)
72 73 70 70, F Nobide (NZ) 70 73 72 70;
288 E Bis (SA) 74 67 73 74, N Ozald (Lapan)
74 69 72 74; 290 M Wetr (Car) 69 74 69
76: 291 L Westwood (GB) 71 69 72 79; 294 7
Dodds (Nam) 72 74 76 72, F Allern (SA) 70
68 74 82; 295 I Woosnam (GB) 73 70 73
79, B Langer (Ger) 74 69 73 79.

STANDARD REGISTER PING TOURNA-MENT (Photenin) Leading final scores (US undess stated): 274 K Webb (Aus) 65 68 69 59; 278 L Kane (20) 66 70 71 71; 280 J Moodle (GB) 73 73 69 65, J Geddes 75 69 71 65; 281 W Ward 70 77 68 72; 282 E Dahloff (Swe) 75 70 69 68 K Robbins 72 71 71 68, J Inkster 68 75 70 69; Selected; 284 C Matthew (GB) 74 69 70 71, A Soren-stam (Swe) 72 69 71 72; 285 L Doyles (GB) 68 72 72 73, 287 D Barnard (GB) 73 70 75 69; 294 K Marshall (GB) 70 75 75 74,

ICE HOCKEY

SPORTING DIGEST

NML: Calgary 2 NY Islanders 1, Chicago A Cobrado 3, NY Rangers 2 Pittsburgh 2 (of, Philadelphis 5 Denoit 4. Boston 4 Wash-ington 1, Florida 5 Anahelm 2, Dallas 3 Car-olina 2 (of), Phonick 4 Los Angelea 1. SEKONDA SUPERLISAGUE Plag-off Group As Manchester 4 Brackneti 0. ICE SKATING WORLD FIGURE S RATING CHAMPI-ONSHIPS [Heisinkt] Blea's qualifying, Group B (first 15 advance to short pro-gramme): 15 Pusherino (Rud) 0.4 factored placements: 2 M Weiss (US) 0.8: 3 E Stojio (Can) 1.2: 4 A Liu (Aug) 1.6: 5 T Zhanovic (US) 2.0: 6 D Dmitrenico (Ulor) 2.4: 7 G Dengoin (Ch) 2.8: 8 I Diney (Bu) 3.2: 9 V Murranidze (Geor) 3.6: 10 S Vidral (Hurl) 4.0: 11 R Stogmislavy (Uzb) 4.4: 12 M Lernico (Fin) 4.8: 13 R Kadmir (Stoxal) 5.2: 14 C Greorghe (Rom) 5.6: 15 A Crestnikh (Arm)

7.30 unless stated NATIONWIDE LEAGUE FIRST DIVISION Barnsley v Bristol City (7.45).... Port Vale v Grimsby (7.45).... SECOND DIVISION Bristol Rovers v Wycombe (7.45) . ding (7.45) ...

FOOTBALL

Luton v Reading (7.45)
THIRD DIVISION
Darlington v Carlisle (7.45)
Scunthorpe v Swansea
AUTO WINDSCREENS SHIELD
NORTHERN AREA PINAL
SECOND LEG
Wresham (0) v Wigan (2) (7.45).
NATIONWIDE COMPERENCE
Hereford v Wolung (7.45)
Leck v Rushden (7.45)
Yeowi v Southport (7.45)
Yeadon V Premier Division:
Aylesbury v Enficit; Surton Und v Billerleax Pirat Division: Leatherhead v Bognor Reys (7.45): Romford v Staines (7.45); Wealdstone v Oxford Cay (7.45); Wording v Barton (7.45): Yeading v Chertsey Kown
Second Divisions Barlung v Whenhoe
(7.45): Weading v Chertsey Kown
Second Divisions Barlung v Whenhoe
(7.45): Third Divisions Camberley v
Wingate & Frinchiey (7.45): Oneshum v Ford
Und (7.45): Clapton v Ware (7.45): Doriving v East Thurnock (7.45): Epsom & Ewell
v Egham (7.45): Tibury v Kingsbury
(7.45): League Cap semi-finals first legMiddenhead v Boreham Wood; Bromley
v Aldershot, Planta Cap fourth round:
Chesham v Hendon (7.45).
UNIBOND LEAGUE Premier Divisions
Accington Stanley v Emtey: Bishop Aucli-

TODAY'S FIXTURES land v Blyth Spartans: Otoriey v Guiseley, Lancaster v Cohwyn Bay, Whithy v Bam-ber Bridge (7.45). First Divisione Fib-ton v Witton Abion; Harrogate Town v Eastwood Town; Netherfield v Burscough. President's Cop semi-final Brat leg: Droylsden v Stalybridge. President's Op semi-final second leg: Rundom (0) v Leigh RMI (1).

v Leigh RMI (1).

DR MARTENS LEAGUE Premier Division: Hing's lynn v Bath City (7,45); Tamworth v Rothwell Town, Midfand Philision: Bloavich Town v Redditch Utd: Moor Green v Sollhull Borough; Shepshed Dynama v Weston-super-Mare, Southern Dridsion: Ashford Town v Hayant & Westonoville, Brackley Town v Raunds Town; Crenoster Town v Erith & Belwedere, Newport (10W) v Torbridge Angels. League Cup semi-flant first leg: Dorchester v Cambridge City.

MINISTONICEAD NEW! LEAGUE Premier

WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE Frender Division: Bedenham Town v Thamesmead Town; Greenwich Borough v Chattam Town. THERET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE First Division: Horsham YMCA v Selsey, Recibil v Whitehawk; Wick v East Presion.

VYVINITATION VICENT TRAINS LEAGUE First Division Atherton Collevies v Glos-sop North End. Cheadle Town v Kietgrove Athletic Naturelo Town v Stetmerstrie Utd. Floodill Trophy semi-final first leg: Dar-ven v Cetherne. wen v Citheroë.

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE Premier Disision: Eccleshii Utd v Garlorth Town; Pontefract v Liversedge; Staveley v Sethy League Cup Foarth round; Ossert Albion v Denaby Utd.

JEWISON WIESSEX LEAGUE: Newbury v Wimbone Town; Brockenhurs v Gosport Borough; Christchurch v BAT Sports League Cup Semi-final First legs Lymington & New Milton v Moncyfields.

JEWISCH PASTERN LEAGUE Premier District (7.45): Ey City v 105s Rown Fal-enham Rown v Wrosham: Lowescott Rown v Great Yarmouth Town; Sudbury Wan-deres v Harnich & Parkeston; Woodbridge Rown v Gorleston.

PRESS & JOURNAL HIGHLAND LEAGUE: Clacknapuddin y Peterhead (8.0). SMENOET IRISH LEAGUE Premier Di-visions Ballymena v Citronville; Glenctoran v Coleraine: Newry v Glenavon; Omagh Kown v Linfeld; Portadown v Crusaders. First Division: Ards v Dungomon Swifes; Ballyclare v Carrick; Distillery v Bangor; Larne v Limanady Utd. sampuare v Limanady Utd.

Lame v Limanady Utd.

LEAGUE OF WALPS; Afan Lido v Rhayader Town; Connah's Quay v Caensarton
Town; Sarry Town v Cwmbran.

PONTINS LEAGUE Premier Division: tle (7.0).

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION First Division: Queen's Park Rangers v Oxford Utd (2.0): Tottenham v Gillingham, West Ham v Crystal Palace (1.0): Bournemouth v Cambridge Utd (2.0).

RUGBY UNION With Shi NATIONAL LEAGUE Premier Di-vision: Pontypridd v Bridgend (7.15). First Division: Cross Keys v Durwan (7.0); Messteg v South Water Police (7.0); Ton-du v UWIC (Cardiff Inst) (7.0); Tredegar v Pontypool (7.0); Treorthy v Blackwood (7.0).

OTHER SPORTS SNOOKER: Benson and Hedges Irish Mas-ters (or Golfs Out), Kill, Co Kildore). SQUASH: British Open (at Eliming)

RALLY OF PORTUGAL (Day two, Porto): 1 C McRee (38, Ford) 1hr 45mins 45.0secs: 2 R Burns (68, Suberu) +49.2secs; 3 C Sainz (Sp. Toyota) + 50.1; 4 D Auriol (Fr. Koyota) + 54.5; 5 M Gronholm (Fin, Missubshi) + 1:13.5; 6 J Karkidunen (Fin, Subaru) + 1:40.6; 7 H Rowanpera (Fin, Sec) + 1:55.5; 8 P List-di (£ Seat) + 1:55.8; 9 F List-di (£ Seat) + 1:55.8; 3 F Markidunen (Fin, Subaru) + 2:01.1; 10 B Thiry (Bela, Subaru) + 2:32.5.

SWIMMING

5 W I M M I M G
AUSTRALIAN CHARRIPONSHIPS (Day
three, Brisbase): Men: 100m backstroke: 1 R Hoss 55.74; 2 m M Weish
55.86; 2 m J Weison 55.86; 2 m G
Freestyle: 1 G Hackett 1:46.99; 2 l Thorpe 1:47.08; 3 M KIM 1:47.97. Westwate
100m backstroke: 1 G Rooney 1:02.91;
2 D Calub 1:03.32; 3 D Lewis 1:03.76.
100m breaststroke: 1 S Ricy 1:09.36;
2 C Hildreth 1:09.59; 3 T White 1:10.21.

S U M O
SPRING TOURNAMENT (Osaka) Wash
day (of 15): Wakanojo (won 5, lost 4) bt
Kotoryu (4-5): Wakanojo (won 5, lost 4) bt
Kotoryu (4-5): Mitolaumi [3-6] bt Roidssuumi [4-5]: Kaho (6-3) bt Hamponshima [3-6]: Asanosho (5-4): Asanosho (3-6): Oginishiki (4-5) bt Ganyu (2-7): Miyabiyama (7-2) bt Chiyoterzan (7-2); Miyabiyama (7-2) bt Chiyoterzan (2-7): Miyabiyama (7-2) bt Chixoterzan (3-6) bt Roid (2-7): Xahanosho (3-6) bt Roid (3-6) Akinoshima
(7-2) bt Roid (3-6) bt Roid (3-6): Akinoshima
(7-2) bt Roid (3-6): Akinoshima
(1-6): Yochiazama (4-2) bt Kotonowaka (3-5):
Xikamonami (7-2) bt Kaho (5-4): Nigonoumi (4-5) bt Takamonama (7-2): Wakanohana
(5-4) bt Tamakasuga (3-6).

LIPTON CHAMPIONSHIPS (Key Bis-cayne, Fiorida) Men's singles, third round: F Clavet (5p) bt K Carisen (Den)

6-2 6-4: C Moya (Sp) bt J Stoltenberg (Aus)
6-7 6-1 7-5: T Enqvist (Swe) bt F Mantilla (Sp) 4-6 6-3 7-5: G Rusedski (GB) bt
h Dreekman (Gen) 6-3 6-4: A Corretja (Sp)
bt R Delgado (Par) 6-4 1-5 6-4: S Groslean (Fr) bt J Krostak (Stowsk) 6-2 6-4: V
Spadea (US) bt F Santovo (Fr) 6-3 6-2: J
Golmard (Fr) bt T Herntan (GB) 6-4 7-6:
M Safin (Rus) bt M Philippoussis (Aus) 76-6-4: K Kucera (Siovak) bt A Pavel (Rom)
6-3 7-5: P Sampras (US) bt J Bjorkman
(Swe) 7-5 6-3.
Women's singles, bild nound: M Seles
(US) bt C Martiner (Sp) 6-2 6-1: N Zvereva (Bela) bt N Tauzat (Fr) 6-3 6-2: M
Hingls (Swith bt A Frazier (US) 6-1 6-1:
S Graf (Ger) bt H Nagyova (Slovak) 6-1
6-3: E Liknotseva (Rus) bt A Mauresmo
(Fr) 4-6 7-6 (7-5) 6-1: M Wengartner
(Ger) bt C Rubin (US) 2-6 7-5 6-4: 1 Davenport (US) bt 5 Farina (III) 6-4 7-5: A
Coetzer (SA) bt M Draler (Can) 6-4 6-4:
A Kournikou (Rus) bt J Halard-Decugs (Fr)
6-4 7-6: B Schett (Aut) bt A Kremer (Lint)
6-4 6-2.

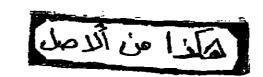
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NEW FACES STAKE RYDER CLAIMS P21 WINNING BOWL FOR GOUGH P23

Numbers problem for Keegan

KEVIN KEEGAN quickly dis-covered the realities of his new job yesterday, when he finally stepped on to a training ground as the England coach to find he had only eight players from an original 24-man squad to work attempts to regain matchwith. The rest were either injured or resting.

This left his main work as pastoral and medical. First he soothed, for the time being at least, the festering row between Graeme Le Saux and Robbie Fowler. Then, in an ironic twist, he saw Le Saux's former bête noir, David Batty, at Wembley in the anchor role. and his current rival for an England place, Andy Hinchcliffe, re- one of the most experienced turn to Yorkshire with injury.

BY GLENN MOORE

Batty's absence, caused by a virus which has set back his fitness after a rib injury, is a particular blow. In the absence of the suspended Paul Ince it appeared the Leeds midfielder would have started Saturday's European Championship qualifier against Poland.

Keegan may now be forced to give Tim Sherwood a debut With 37 caps, Batty had been

a minor goalkeeping crisis after both David Seaman and Nigel Martyn reported with knocks following their weekend ries, Michael Owen (ham-matches. Although both are string), David Beckham (calf) expected to be fit by Saturday, Keegan did not want to risk either in training until they had recovered. Having already called up Ian Walker, the Tottenham goalkeeper, he has also promoted Paul Robinson from

ham, Manchester United, Chelsea and Aston Villa, were rested. Keegan will decide today if he needs further the Under-21s to provide further cover. There is no prospect of Robinson, Martyn's under-The departure of Hinchcliffe. study at Leeds, being involved who has a back problem, increased the importance of in the senior game at the weekend, however. Should the Keegan's diplomatic overture to

prove more serious than at Stamford Bridge last month thought, a more experienced when Le Saux reacted violently to Fowler's allegedly homogoalkeeper would be called up. The three other injury worphobic taunts.

The pair are understood to have kissed and made up (though not literally, a manly shake of hands was the preand Chris Sutton (groin), underwent treatment yesterday ferred option) as soon as they while players from those clubs who played on Sunday, Tottenmet at the team's Buckinghamshire hotel on Sunday night. Keegan then held a 20inute meeting with them.

The Football Association described this as "a clear-the-air meeting" in which "both made it clear there was no personal animosity and that they were happy to continue as internainjuries to Seaman and Martyn Le Saux and Fowler, who fell out tional team-mates."

Keegan said: "I'm delighted Graeme and Robbie were able to shake hands even before I asked them to come to my room. It's very important for them to be able to do so in private rather than publicly.

"I'm satisfied that in no way will our preparation for such an important game be disrupted either as a team, or with them as individuals, by what may have happened in the past. That's all that matters. As far as I'm concerned the issue is over and done with."

This is not the case as far as the FA is concerned, as there is still a misconduct charge hanging over both players. With

able to comment "on legal advice", which suggests all is not as hunky-dory as Keegan would hope. Nor was there a public handshake for the media. The players were said to have felt are contenders for play-making it would appear "contrived".

It is understood they will not be sharing a room but they may well be on the same side when Keegan holds his first full training session at Bisham Abbey this morning. The press are invited and any further conflagration between the pair would "unhelpful".

More serious interest will recentral midfield. Aside from

that in mind neither player felt Sherwood he could ask Pani Scholes to curb his attacking instincts and fill the holding role or move Gareth Southgate into midfield. Beckham, Darren Anderton and Jamie Redknapp responsibilities.

Meanwhile, the England Under-21 side's hopes of qualifying for the European Championship finals have suffered a setback with the withdrawal of the Leicester striker. Emile Heskey. Capped 15 times. Heskey has been forced to pull out of the squad for Friday's group match with Poland volve around Keegan's plans for at The Dell with a recurrence

Ireland trip still in doubt

should find out today whether Saturday's European Championship qualifier in Macedonia will take place. The game, scheduled to be held in Skopje, is in doubt an injury setback which could because of the possibility of rob him of Ryan Giggs against Nato air strikes in the area.

Uefa, the governing body of European football, could decide to hold the match at a neutral venue or move it to late April. Yugoslavia's match with Croatia in Belgrade is also in doubt.

The Irish squad are due to fly to Macedonia on Thursday, and a Football Association of Ireland spokesman said: "We have got be left to the Football Associato be assured that everything will be safe."

The Republic's manager, Mick McCarthy, said he was preparing his team in the expectation that the game would go ahead. "What's happening in Kosovo is very sad but until somebody in authority tells us to the contrary, we must assume that the match is on," he said.

The Republic's match in Yugoslavia, scheduled for last October, was postponed at the time because Nato countries were considering military action.

Uefa should also reveal today its decision over Wales' Welsh attempt to move the fixture, after the Danes expressed their wish for the game to be played at Anfield.

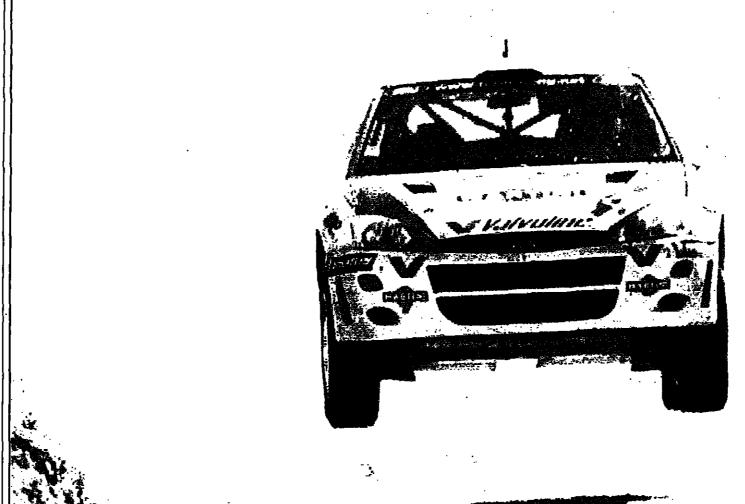
The Wales manager, Bobby

day with a delegation from the Football Association of Wales to plead his case. But of more pressing concern for Gould is Switzerland next week.

Giggs was missing from the Manchester United line-up against Everton on Sunday because of a hamstring problem, although his club manager, Alex Ferguson, said that he would still join up with his international team-mates on Thursday and a decision would tion of Wales' medical experts.

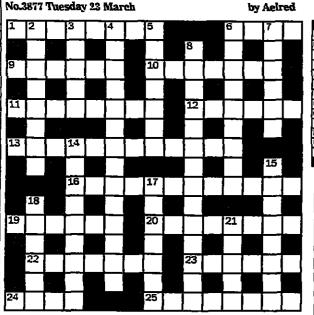
"Alex has said that Ryan can join us, and that is what will happen," confirmed Gould. "We will have a good look at him on Thursday and take it from there. At the moment I'm concentrating on the Uefa meeting into our appeal to switch the Denmark game to Cardiff. I will start turning my attention to Ryan Giggs when we get back on Tuesday evening."

It is likely Wales that will not be eager to clear up any doubts over Giggs' fitness in order to leave the Swiss guessing until the last moment. But Gould request to play Denmark in said: "I think the Swiss have June in Cardiff, not Liverpool. more to worry about at the mo-Uefa has already denied one ment with their game in Belarus on Saturday to start thinking whether Ryan Giggs will be facing them in Zurich on Wednesday week."



More football, page 24 | Colin McRae flies into the lead in his Ford Focus WRC during the first leg, fourth stage, of the Portuguese Rally yesterday in Fafe, northern Portugal

THE TUESDAY CROSSWORD



ACROSS Expected to keep further account for police

vehicle (5.3) of fog? (3.4)
Criminal grabbing one's 23 Willing to participate money (4)

Squeeze glass of beer from container (3,3) 10 Graduate, reportedly one doing without the

11 Shun changes in Irish place for US chaff (8) 12 I stay with Frenchman

13 Pension off very good woman you finally took in (12)

16 Upset rep, his tables must be set up before-

19 One with snooty person rejected a small tree (6) 6 Dried insects could be

20 His gripe - poor playing? (8) 22 Nourishing constituent

24 Even living here could be boring (4) 25 Delight? Then you might have to do this (8)

DOWN

2 Kind of watch or equivalent item (8) Woman splits racket in

French city (5) Simple roofing material useless for pressing clothes? (10,4) Mink are cooked in

with team able to go on found in cochlea (9) Woman is a victim of murder (6)

> the night shift? 14 Move in French car carrying name that's German (2,7)

No trouble except for

15 Plant has unusual old

shape (8) It could get mud off filthy cars for one (7) 18 Leave before time is

cut? It's true (6) 21 One animal disease found by new playwright (5)

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Bracken in the wars again

KYRAN BRACKEN, or Kyran "Broken" as the less sympathetic members of the England dressing-room refer to him, has another malfunction and is 99 per cent certain to miss his country's Grand Slam match with Wales at Wembley on 11 April. The Saracens scrumhalf damaged medial ligaments in a knee during Saturday's victory over the French and his his absence would raise all sorts of selection possibilities.

The most interesting involves Austin Healey, the "Leicester Lip", who is serving an eight-week suspension for trampling on the face of London Irish's Kevin Putt during an Allied Dunbar Premiership match last month. As Healey himself reminded Clive Woodward, the England coach, on Saturday night, he is free to play again on 10 April.

RUGBY UNION

BY CHRIS HEWETT

Given his natural fitness -Healey is among the quickest and most resilient players in the national squad - and his unusual versatility in covering both the scrum-half and wing positions, it is not outrageous to suggest that Woodward will consider awarding him an instant recall.

David Rees, the right wing from Sale whose injury record is challenging that of Bracken both in terms of frequency and variety, has already been ruled out of the Wales game after suffering a bad ankle injury at the

Woodward may well turn to his most experienced internaments on the international tional wing, Tony Underwood, to

a controversial draw at Madi-

son Square Garden, New York.

Maloney confirmed the fight

will almost certainly take place

from Saturday's set-to with the Tricolores might almost have been designed to hasten Healey's return to the bench.

Bracken will be bitterly dis-

appointed; considered by most good judges to be the most complete scrum-half in Europe, he appeared to have established himself as Woodward's preferred choice with a display of luminous virtuosity against Ireland in Dublin a little over a fortnight ago. Now he must look on once again as Matthew Dawson, a proud and courageous captain during England's hellish tour of the southern hemisphere last summer, attempts to re-open the debate in the minds of the national selectors.

From his very earliest mostage. Bracken has suffered a dig him out of trouble at No 14, fearful pummelling on the

debut against the All Blacks in 1993 when Jamie Joseph, the uncompromising Otago flanker politely welcomed the newcomer to the big time by stamping on his ankle as he flicked the ball away from the first line-out and effectively cost him half a season's rugby. Since then, the 27-year-old half-back has been constantly in the wars - indeed.

was effectively ruined by a serious back condition. Meanwhile, Brian Ashton, the former Bath and Ireland coach, has named a 26-man or rather, a 26-teenager - party for the IRB/FIRA World Junior Championship, which begins in Wales this Friday It is a clear sign of the professional times that only seven players have yet

his 1995 World Cup campaign

proper that the two Allied Dunbar pacesetters for so much of the season, Leicester and Northampton, should each have three representatives.

The Tigers contribute the centre, Phil Christophers, and the scrum-half, James Grindal, along with their best-known teenage prospect, the outsidehalf Andrew Goode, who has already played first-team rugby at Welford Road. Also among the more recognisable names is Bath's Toki Adebayo, the younger brother of the former Test wing Adedayo Adebayo, who last played for England in last season's Calcutta Cup match at Murrayfield.

England's first game is against the hosts, Wales, at Neath on Friday night. The tournament, featuring teams to join top-flight Premiership from a remarkable 42 nations, clubs and it seems right and ends on Sunday 4 April.

Yankee Stadium favoured for rematch

NEW YORK'S 65,000-capacity Yankee Stadium has emerged as the favourite venue to stage Lennox Lewis's world heavyweight title rematch with Evander Holyfield following promoter Don King's announcement that

a return unification fight will take place in the autumn. Holyfield has agreed to the fight, Lewis's manager, Frank Maloney, confirmed last night. It will take place in September

or October. King is keen on the Yankee Stadium because it could at least double the gate receipts of the first fight, which ended in think the rematch will break

every record in boxing history. The [previous] result was a travesty but in another way it's made everybody in the world aware of boxing." Meanwhile, the British-

in America, with an "outside based World Boxing Union yeschance" of it being staged in terday revealed that it had sacked the judge Eugenia King, who will promote the Williams a year before she fight, has confirmed Holyfield's adjudicated in the Holyfield v Lewis fight. Williams, the agreement for a rematch against Lewis which is set to Independent Boxing Federaearn the fighters up to \$20m tion's nominee from New Jer-(£12.5m) each in an even split sey, was the only one of the of the purse. Maloney said: "It three judges to score the fight

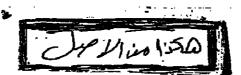
will be parity purse money. I in Holyfield's favour. Now Jon Robinson, presi-

in Norfolk, has revealed that Williams was removed from his judges' panel for being "a loner" last spring. But he stressed that the WBU had no problems with Williams' scoring and confirmed that on the last two occasions she worked for the body she was in accord

with her two colleagues. The WBU has also announced a new scoring system, designed to avoid similar controversies. It involves awarding 20 points to the winner and between 19 and 16 to the loser of each round.



Williams: Sacked by WBU





I UESDAY REVIEW

COMMENT • FEATURES • ARTS • LISTINGS •



'Tis true, 'tis pity, and pity'tis, 'tis true

, yes, it's nice for everybody - nice for the British film industry, nice for the investors, nice for Dame Judi, nice for Marc, nice for Sir Tom, nice for Gwyneth (though maybe not so nice for all those genuinely British Violas who might have been up for the part had someone not been thinking Oscars from the very beginning) but still, yes, yes, nice. And God knows the last thing one wants to do is spoil a good party. But Shakespeare in Love, Best Film, in any company, in any year, judged by any standards - my

masters, are you mad? Let me be blunt, so that we need not waste time on preliminaries. The film is tosh. Tis true, 'tis pity, and pity tis. tis true - the film is tosh. Literate tosh, I grant you, but that somehow makes it worse. All those fine words and grand cadences - almost all of them Shakespeare's - thrown away on such piffling matter. All that erudition and understanding - almost all of it Shakespeare's - serving that single joke most calculated to please the plainest and most uninformed minds: the anachronism gag. You think wink wink shots of souvenirs of Stratford are funny? You think an Elizabethan bargeman telling Shakespeare that he had that Christopher Mariowe in the back of the boat is furny? Best film furny?

Then you are wrong. Before a nudge from that same Christopher Marlowe and a decisive glimpse of Gwyneth's boyish bandaged nipples. Shakespeare was intending to call his new play Ethel the Pirate's Daughter. That strike you as funny? Piquant in some way? Trenchant? Allusive to some telling silliness in the Elizabethan imagination? Wrong again.

I watched the film in the company of somebody who is, as the saying goes, "in the industry". He was alive to all the jokes about producers and moneymen. In making a film about putting on a play, the makers of Shakespeare in Love were really making a film about putting on a film. I begradge no man the pleasure of an in joke. Didn't I, along with everyone else with a degree in English Literature, laugh at visual references to the ghoulish apprenticeship of John Webster? I did. But in the end an in joke is a species of flattery. And he does me double wrong, that wounds me with the flatteries of his tongue.

I am not going to contest the comedy. That Monty Python did it better 25 years will go without saying to anyone who was alive that long ago. That The Fost Show does it better now also seems to me unanswerable. So it was smart of the casting director to use members of The Fast Show in the film. For there is an inevitable Carry On factor at work. Put in comic actors from a funny television show and they will get laughs willy-nilly. That's the dangerous downside of laughter: it is Pavlovian. But it is not because Shakespeare in Love wishes us to laugh at what isn't in its own right funny that it's tosh. That would make it no more than a failure, something which,

in other circumstances, might just have been a success. Shakespeare in Love could never have been a success. It has no foundations; it is a feeble construct on an ugly and baseless idea. Namely that Shakespeare was a dickhead with a Boyzone range of thoughts, suffering a soap star's depression in conjunction with a romantic novelist's writer's block.

I'll be round with you. It's not on Shakespeare's behalf that this bothers me. We must assume, by now, that Shakespeare can take care of himself. Even the best jokes against his tendency to blustering grandiloquence and pedantry - remember those in-

BY HOWARD **JACOBSON**

comparable take-offs of the History Plays in Beyond the Fringe? - have left his reputation unimpaired. No: for Shakespeare himself, who on an off-day could compose bombast to equal The Lakes and is therefore ripe for ridicule, I entertain no anxieties. It's us we should be worried for. Who is it out there who thinks this is the only Shakespeare we can take? How does it behave us as a species, how does it help

us, to believe that art is made by a moron in love? Unable to proceed with Ethel the Pirate's Daughter, not given to reading or thinking much, but forever mooning in regulation period Eastcheap or wherever it is that Elizabethans are deemed to have

shouted a lot and bustled unnecessarily considering that shops weren't open for as long as they are now (anachronism joke), Shakespeare encounters Gwyneth, falls in love with how her voice coach has taught her to pronounce English and how many lines she knows from plays he hasn't written yet, and subsequently spills out of her bed carrying pages of manuscript. Was it Rodin who said he sculpted with his penis? The message of Shakespeare in Love is that Shakespeare wrote with his. Gwyneth, bed, nipples, love, moan, morning, manuscript. Magic. No ink. No pen. Nothing. Just Gwyneth in his arms and that's Romeo and Juliet completed. Next? Well, next in the film's solipsistic romantic chronology is Twelfth Night and that's all to do with Gwyneth also. Steadfast in life, she must be the model for Sebastian's constant sister. For surely Shakespeare could never have imagined constancy?

We are out of the cinema long before we get to any problem plays (Shakespeare in a Bit of Tizz-Wozz?) let alone the tragedies (Shakespeare Upset?). Which is probably for the best.

Plucking out the heart of Shakespeare's mystery is the name of the game. Behind the offered goodnaturedness of the film's determined anti-intellectualism lies a mean-minded academic conspiracy. The conspiracy of the historicists. You will find historicists in every university in the world, invariably the deliverers of the dullest lectures because they believe in dullness with a flameless passion. They are the ones who tell you that nothing is ever to be

DON'T DEVIATE.

understood in any work of literature unless you know everything about the time in which it was written. and what precisely befell its writer. For this is the beginning and the end of their own expertise. Any interest in the writer's intelligence or imagination, the largeness of his mind, his power to infuse his particular experience with general thought, is considered uneducated, unacademic, fanciful and unreliable.

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On the surface this is anti-populist because it gives primacy to scholarship and abstruse knowledge. No work is truly open to you, it says, because you don't know enough. But it meets the present preoccupation with finding a voice in which to please everyone - dumbing down, if you like - in this way: it makes us all equal before the accidents of experience. No one is exceptional. No one makes choices of a different order to the choices we all make. No one thinks otherwise. No one is serious, No one seeks to be unconfined by the common,

Odd, that a moment in the history of the obfuscation of literature should have found popular expression in a movie which flatters ignorance and incuriosity. But maybe everything is now tending to lightness. Fall in love, go on stage, take your pants off, have a laugh, be a sport. Live in your context.

In fact Shakespeare in Love tells us a lot more about us than about Shakespeare. The film would pluck out the heart of his mystery, but it doesn't sound him to the top of his compass. It merely sounds our own lowest notes.

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Leaders and comment

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Features Arts <u>Visual arts</u>

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Your leading article (22 March) doesn't mention what bombing would achieve. The answer is: nothing. If anything, it would harden the resolve of the Serb people. Although it is pitiful to see civilians fleeing from their homes, Kosovo's Albanians should have known that Serbia will never forsake its "Jerusalem" (which accounts for 20 per cent of the republic) without a fight. Serbia is quite evidently expendable to the Kosovo Albanians and the US and British government but she isn't expendable to the Serbian people. D NOVAKOVIC-PAVLOVIC

Sir: President Clinton said on Friday, with reference to Kosovo, that "hesitation is a licence to kill". True. An enormous human tragedy is unfolding before our eyes. Why are we witnessing hesitation?

Nato should have acted on Saturday, as soon as the observers had left. Yet we see Richard Holbrook making another visit. Is it to ask Mr Milosevic's permission to commence hostilities?

Two things are needed very fast First, a safe area to be created for the Kosovars, free of all Serb security forces. This will need a very large number of ground troops, because the local Serb civilians also need protection and because Serb forces need to be ejected. And second, a speedy referendum for the Kosovars on full independence from Serbia.

Furthermore, the capture and trial of President Milosevic for war crimes is not just desirable but it is imperative, because the parallel with Saddam Hussein and the Kurds in northern Iraq is becoming too painfully obvious. GEOFFREY R CLARK Meopham, Kent

Sir: President Milosevic has refused to accept a foreign peacekeeping force in Kosovo, but Nato air strikes on Serbia will not make peace in Kosovo more realisable.

Western European and US mediators may have run out of patience in Paris but bombing a sovereign country to force it into signing a peace accord is a dangerous game. Air strikes against Serbia should not just be seen in the context of retribution for Serbian atrocities against the Kosovan Albanians. For rather than persuading Milosevic to sign up to the peace agreement, Nato action will only dissuade the Serbs from entering any further peace negotiations and create a further

Unlike Iraq, Serbia has no weapons of mass destruction and is not threatening its neighbours. We may feel uncomfortable about the situation in Kosovo but air strikes are not a catch-all solution for every ethnic conflict. MARK FRANKEL London NW3

Brightest and best?

Sir: The Government's wonderful windfall for the brightest children is absolutely in the right direction ("Heads attack high-flyers tuition plan", 22 March). The big drawback, though, is in the manner of selection of the top 10 per cent - by teachers.

When teachers select the gifted they almost invariably choose wellbehaved children who are already highly achieving. Pupils who are outspoken and different are much less likely to be granted access to this bounty, no matter how great

It is vital that pupils be given some say in their own educational plans. The evidence is that it is their interests and enthusiasm which provide the basis of their future successes, not teacher

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Post letters to Letters to the Editor, The Independent, 1 Canada Square, London E14 5DL and include a daytime telephone number, fax to 0171 293 2056 or e-mail to letters@independent.co.uk. E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address.

Letters may be edited for length and clarity



HMS Invincible No 2: The two keys to maintaining morale at sea are mail and food. On their bunks in the Junior Ratings quarters, chefs Matthew 'Smudge' Smith, 25 (right) and 'Sharky' Neale, 21, from St Helens, take a break from providing meals 24 hours a day

Neville Elder

approval. As with sport, every child should have the opportunity to practice and use extra facilities in other areas. I've termed this the Sports Approach in my recent Ofsted report on Educating the Very Able. It is an inexpensive route and could provide the means for the underachieving gifted to reach high levels. Professor JOAN FREEMAN London W1

Murder island

Sir: Let us hope Kenneth Taylor's chilling account of the growing numbers of British-Jamaican pensioners who have been murdered after retiring to Jamaica ("Paradise lost", 19 March) will finally force the Jamaican government to move away from its usual defensive stance on such reports, and do whatever is necessary to stop pensioners when they return to what they genuinely hoped would be "home sweet home in paradise".

For too long, the Jamaican government and many Jamaicans have tended to be defensive when issues such as the appalling levels of crime and violence in Jamaica are exposed in the foreign media. The common complaint, particularly from the Jamaican High Commissioner here in Britain, is that Jamaica always gets negative reporting in the British media and stories are often reported "out of context".

The reality is clear: in 1998 alone, over 900 people, including a number of pensioners from Britain and the USA, were murdered in Jamaica, a country of just 2.5 million people.

If the Jamaican government is serious about wanting visitors and expatriates to "come to Jamaica and feel all right", then it had better start finding solutions quickly to its biggest challenge, the frightening reality of crime and violence in Jamaica. **B D BURRELL** North Greenford, Middlesex

Transplant consent

Sir: The recent correspondence regarding organ transplantation has been interesting, and in part alarming. To me, as a nurse, it seems that medical science and technology have progressed with little regard for ethical values.

At the start of my nursing training I was taught to have just as much respect for the dead as the living, and the deceased patient was always left for an hour before our final caring was carried out. Over the years I worked in many units, and never met one nurse who challenged this approach. More recently, in charge of wards which received people with head injuries, that is potential organ donors, a problem arose.

I know that relatives never had the procedure for organ removal fully explained to them - nor did they ask for it. They assumed that the commonly understood sense, and at this tragic and emotional time it was sometimes a help to them to feel that their bereavement could help some

other family. Mr T T King (letter, 16 March) is correct when he says that many nurses dislike the use of beatingheart donors. We have a much closer relationship with patients and their relatives than the medical staff and find it alien to the principles and practice of nursing.

Sir: I am sure all Virgin Rail

congratulations to the Breitling

Orbiter team on being the first

to circumnavigate the world by

Sir: Dr Graham Gould fletter,

19 March) could not be more

passengers will join me in

offering heartiest

NIALL MANSFIELD

wrong about political

correctness. It is always

dominate by controlling

about having the power to

Cambridge

I completed my career in the hospice movement, where people are allowed to die peacefully, and I just pray that sooner rather than later and alternative to live transplant surgery will be found.

In the meantime everyone should be offered full details of the procedure currently used before being issued with a donor card. They would then be giving informed consent Mrs SHEILA RING Chaldon, Surrey

Bleating truckers

Sir: Let's not be taken in by the bleatings of the road haulage lobby ("Talks offer to avert London lorry protest", 22 March). The lorry industry has had its own way for far too long, ruthlessly undercutting the railways and by the early 1990s almost destroying the rail freight network.

road-building programme and massive hidden subsidies (the industry made no contribution to the huge environmental costs it imposed). Gordon Brown is at last doing something towards levelling the steep road/rail

playing field for freight. As to their threat to register lorries abroad: so what? Many of the rail wagons in UK domestic traffic are registered in France and Germany. And virtually all British commercial ships fly

IN BRIEF

Unlike, say, law enforcement,

actions which are deemed to

be bad. PC describes certain

from which any departure is

Gould should reflect a little

on the historical use of the

word "heresy".

C A BANKS

London SE6

deemed to be bad. Perhaps Dr

speech and expression.

which proscribes certain

correct words and deeds,

foreign flags of convenience. Numbers game Whatever the tax regime, truckers will continue to dominate

the freight industry for many years

business, that won't be a bad thing.

But don't expect to see many fewer

to come. If some of the corner-

cutting cowboys are put out of

juggernauts on our roads.

No silver lining

Sir. Once again the "silver lining"

("The darkness that has brought

Dickens, Greene, Balzac and other

creative artists who have suffered

from depressive illness is a benefit

to society in general and not to the

sympathise with these individuals

worth paying for works of genius.

The vast majority of us who

suffer from depression do not fall

into the category of genius. We are

choice between being depressed

depressed and untalented, I know

and immensely talented or not

no depressive who would opt for

the alleged gift of genius. The

Stonehouse, Gloucestershire

STEPHEN HARRISON

Sir: The President of the

the right to teaching and

have the right to

quality." (Students say

Department of French University of Hull

National Union of Students

support from motivated and

asserts that "all students have

well-resourced staff. They also

lecturers not up to the job", 19

March.) If he means "quality

teachers". does he agree that

university teachers bave a

right to "quality students"? FREDERICK LANGLEY

agony is beyond compensation.

ordinary people with average

levels of ability. If offered the

sufferer. It is but a short step to

arguing that while society may

view of depression re-emerges

humanity light", 20 March).

Unfortunately the works of

MARK DORAN

Oxford

Sir: Alarmed at the rapidity with which the next phone number change is upon us and having received no notification from BT about the effect of the changes. I called the BT operator to find out what my number will be after 1

The operator didn't know but gave me the BT national numberchange number (0800 224 2000). This, on dialling, was unobtainable.

On calling back, I was told that 0181 will be replaced by 0208, and that my present seven-digit number remains unchanged for local calls. This operator also found the freephone number unobtainable, although she did eventually locate another number which got me through.

I was then given information which contradicted what I had does become eight-digit.

Can I reprint my company's stationery on this basis? ALEC BARTON London SE23

Public art

Sir: It is understandable that people who own works of art on which inheritance tax has been waived should be reluctant to admit strangers to their houses to see them ("Hidden art forced out of the closet", 20 March). Apart from the security risks, private houses are simply not equipped to deal with visits from the general

The obvious answer is that the works should be displayed from time to time in premises which are so quipped: public halls and galleries. If large numbers of privately held pictures, furniture and so forth were assembled each year in regional exhibitions, far more people would see them and the owners could preserve their JOHN SWAN Kedington, Suffolk

Kids today

Sir: It is not surprising that British children are spending more time indoors watching television and playing computer games ("Our generation of couch potato kids" 19 March), Parental safety fears and lack of time to supervise children are factors, but they hide a more profound problem - the lack of priority given to investing in developing good-quality safe

playgrounds and safe communities. Our own work with young people hacks what the LSE's latest study shows, that "children prefer to get out". So why aren't we taking action to improve play opportunities for children and young people? In some areas of the country play facilities are practically non-existent and badly maintained. In one area where we work, children actually built their own bike track after their attempts to get the council to make improvements failed.

The Audit Commission's last survey of children's playgrounds shows that just under one playground is provided for every 500 children (1995). But giving children better play opportunities it is not just about building playgrounds; local authorities need to take a more integrated approach and look at ways of creating communities where children can move between play areas, schools and their homes in safety. In the Netherlands, where proper provision for cycling is made, 60 percent of all the journeys children aged between 12 and 15 make are by bicycle; this compares to 6 per cent in Britain.

Instead of reaffirming the fears that parents have about allowing their children to venture outside it is time we started tackling those fears by building better safer communities for children to play. **BOB REITEMEIER** Operations Director The Children's Society London WC1

Sir: Barbara Kew's reasoning (Letter, 20 March) is bizarre. Far from learning "most of their problem-solving techniques from their parents", children tend to judge, and then reject, almost

everything their parents have done. My own divorced parents' four children all reached either death or retirement happily married to one partner. I cannot answer for my siblings, but I know that the spectacle of my parents' miserable disloyalty to each other made me determined to make a better job of the business of marriage. Far from accepting, as Barbara Kew does, that divorce will increase with each generation, I feel that a successful marriage may be the only decent thing left to which our children and grandchildren can aspire. Everything else, today, is too easy. Mrs DORAINE POTTS Cheltenham, Gloucestershire

Brussels democracy

Sir: David Aaronovitch (Comment, adopt an open list for elections to the European Parliament next time around. Yet in his proposal for an elected Commission, he favours a closed system, with Commissioners being elected only by their own countrymen.

The Parliament is a representative assembly, but the Commission is not about national interests - that's what the Council of Ministers is for - but for taking action, when appropriate and with

interests of Europe. So if there are to be elections for Commissioners, as an Irish person I would like to be able to express preferences for candidates of all nationalities, not least that of England. MIKE NORRIS Dublin

due regard to subsidiarity, in the

Many tautologies

Sir. I'm sure the hoi polloi aren't in the least bothered about the tautologies your correspondents A J Edwards and Andrew Test are so incensed about (letter 22 March) IAN FLINTOFF London SW6

Is there really intelligent life beyond the M25?

RUNNING MY eye through the BBC radio programmes scheduled for this week, I see that this new London literary festival called "the Word" has done rather well out of Radio 4. On Monday alone we got Start the Week: Radio 4 at the Word, followed by Serial: Radio 4 at the Word, and, late at night, Book at Bedtime: Radio 4 at the Word, Front Row is scarcely unable to stay away from it all week, and Melvyn Bragg has also been unable to resist the temptation in his weirdly titled Thursday chat show, Melvyn Bragg – in Our Time, except that this week it's got the even more cumbersome title. Melvim Bragg – in Our Time: Radio 4 at

A couple of puzzling things about this. One is why it's called "the Word" and not "The Word". The other is why it's getting such sat-urated coverage on Radio 4. After all, this is an untested aeroplane they're taking up for a spin. It is billed, surprisingly, as London's first literary festival, so you'd think they'd give it a year or two to let it get into its stride before giving Radio 4 over to it.

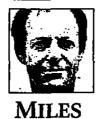
I don't remember such coverage being given to the Cheltenham Book Festival, or Hay-on-Wye, or the Edinburgh Book Festival or even the just-finished book festival at Bath, certainly never in their first year.

So why does a London book festival get all this amazing free coverage? Because it's in London, dum-dum. Everything that happens in London gets greater coverage than things that happen elsewhere in the country.

Why? Because the people who give it coverage also live in London, and the people they work for also live and work in London, and the people who run the BBC and edit the papers live in London, and they would be less than human if they didn't think that everything that happened in London was more interesting than anything that happened elsewhere.

You or I, living outside London, might think it would be more interesting to have a programme about why London is so uncultured that it has never had a book festival before, but you won't get many people in London thinking that's at all interesting. Nobody in London ever imagines London ever being without anything.

Also, it's so very convenient having it all happening in London.



KINGTON When people are

well-known in London they are assumed to be well-known everywhere

You can imagine someone at Radio 4 saying: "Hot diggity, we're going to have all these famous writers like

Margaret Atwood, and, um, other very famous people all coming into London at the same time and we can pop them into a taxi one by one and get them into the studios at Broadcasting House, if we've got any studios left at Broadcasting House, that is, to record them cheaply and fill the airwaves with writers talking and reading their stuff, and we'll look as if we're doing our cultural duty, and we won't have to pay travelling or overnight ex-

penses for any of them!" I am not anti-London, I lived in Notting Hill for 20 years and loved it. It's just that having moved out of London 10 years ago I have gradually come to see how Londoncentric the press and media are.

It's a thing you remain virtually unaware of when you're Londonlocked. Women often tell me how much more male-oriented the world looks if you happen to be female. I remember going to Harlem for the first time and suddenly realising what a white view of the world I had.

It's the same with being a Londoner Having a London view of the world isn't quite as drastic or radical as being conditioned by your gender or colour, of course, but it's still fairly potent and unconscious.

Take last week's guest on Desert Island Discs. Sue Lawley presented Fay Maschler as a very famous and award-winning and distinguished and well-known food writer, which may be true in London, but outside London is a load of curly kale.

How can anyone outside London know who Fay Maschler is? Fay Maschler writes on food for the

Evening Standard, which is a local evening paper in the London area. She has no national presence that I am aware of at all. Can you imagine the food critic of the Edinburgh Evening News being asked on to Desert Island Discs?

No, the plain truth is, when people are well-known in London they are assumed to be well-known everywhere, and that anything that is important to Londoners is important to all, which must be a very warming feeling if you live in London, but tends to piss off the very large majority of people who don't and won't live in London.

On the other hand, lots of other interesting things do happen 100 miles from London that never get mentioned in the London papers. I'll take a risk and promise to mention some of them tomorrow.

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THE TUENDAY REVIEW The line product 23 March 1999

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As the world shrinks, consumers are the new champions

YESTERDAY'S DEMONSTRATION by truck drivers in London, against Treasury increases in excise and diesel duties, revealed more than just one industry's grievances. It also revealed how much power globalisation is giving consumers, over both the state and large multinational businesses.

The truckers had a valid case to make. Tempted by an alluring "green" tinge for their policies, while at the same time bringing in vast amounts of revenue, successive ministers have continuously increased petrol and excise duties in order to cut taxes elsewhere. This Government has been no different. Gordon Brown's recent Budget saw such taxes rise way above the rate of inflation, excise duty rising to 12 times that paid by truckers in France. But it is the haulage industry's highlighting of those disparities that is the new and interesting feature of their protest.

With Continental hauliers increasingly active in Britain, and the volume of intra-European trade increasing, the comparisons were inevitable. In the long run, the industry should look to itself for salvation: new fuels and more efficient trucks will help. But disgruntled industries such as haulage will also increasingly turn to Europe - so demonised in certain sections of the British press for promoting inevitable tax rises - as the only forum in which to deal with tax variations in a single market. Hadage is one demonstration of how more European co-operation on consumption taxes could lessen the burden on business rather than increase it.

Exorbitant national taxation is not alone in its new high profile. British consumers are increasingly aware that British firms, as well as the Government, are living more comfortably off them than their counterparts elsewhere. The cost of cars in this country is a notorious example. subject to a recently launched Monopolies and Mergers Commission inquiry. If strict European Union rules on price variation were obeyed, the price of cars would come down overnight. An EU attack on the showroom cartels that inflate car prices would mirror its social action for the low-paid embodied in the Social Chapter of the Maastricht Treaty. If the EU were to be seen acting for consumers as well as workers, it could begin to leave behind the image of an out-of-touch bureaucracy and claim a new popularity. The case also needs to be made that the advent of the euro will promote price transparency.

The car industry is outstripped in public opprobrium only by British supermarkets, which are soon to learn whether they, too, will be referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. Significantly, the Government is threatening to publish price comparisons between British and foreign supermarket goods in order to "name and shame" those charging more than the international norm.



We are witnessing the birth of a smarter consumer, boosted by an Internet still in its infancy but already making an impact on industries as diverse as publishing and tourism. The increasing prevalence of international travel and trade in all industries has seen press and politicians unable any longer to rely on public ignorance as an excuse for inaction on competition, taxation

In a fast-changing economy, companies such as Microsoft can maintain a comfortable technological dominance for only a few years before that same dynamism proves their undoing as smaller, newer companies take advantage of the trail they have blazed. Newly mobile and educated consumers demand no less, as Europe's leaders should now realise. Competition policy will have to be given more teeth. But politicians should realise that governments are businesses of a sort, too, and that, if they charge too much, the voters may desert them as well as profiteering companies.

Hail the creators, not their countries

ONCE AGAIN, as the Oscars are handed out in Los Angeles, many in this country are hailing "British" triumphs. We are delighted to see the likes of Dame Judi Dench, Tom Stoppard, Marc Norman and Stephen Warbeck collect the golden statuettes, and the plaudits of their peers. But to celebrate their triumph as a "British" success, somehow reflecting glory on the rest of us non-thespians, seems rather to miss the point. They are honoured not because they are representative of a nation, but precisely because they transcend most people's less artistic lives.

The national conceit does not just affect Britons, Since governments nominate foreign language films from their own nations to the Academy, there is always the temptation to treat that category as a national beauty pageant.

Roberto Benigni's awards are being seen, at least partly, as a breakthrough for the Italian film industry.

We should not get too excited. There is much to trumpet about British film, with actors, studios and technical staff among the best in the world. But their efforts owe little to a mythical national "character", and still less (thankfully) to communal action embodied in government intervention. Companies such as Channel 4 and the American concern Miramax handle a fickle industry better than the likes of the Lottery Board, yet to sponsor a hit film.

So while celebrating the success of the winning films and film-makers, we should avoid the temptation to be jingoistic. It does not really matter whether a film is British, American or Chinese. What matters most is that as many films as possible are made, expressing a diversity of outlook and catering to a variety of tastes. The example of Shakespeare; the unwitting star of Sunday night's spectacular, is that universal ideas and feelings that all peoples share are the key to creative success.

An Oscar that reminds us of a cowardly, shameful little episode

Britain - England this time - for actually having a history. Queens, ruffs and doublets are all the fashion. But, this time, the more recent and painful past of the United States itself, was also on view at the Oscars ceremony. Director Elia Kazan, in his 90th year, was given the lifetime achievements ward, traditionally bestowed upon anyone famous and fabulously old, who has managed not to die in the preceding year. But outside there were demonstrations against Kazan, in-

Kazan won his first director's Oscar way back in 1948, for a classically liberal film - Gentlemon's Agreement - which exposed anti-Semitism in post-war America. But two weeks after the movie's release the previous year, its writer, Ring Lardner jr, had been one of 10 Hollywood writers or directors havied up before the House Un-American Activities Committee (HUAC), which was investigating communism in the movie industry. By the beginning of 1950 all 10 had been imprisoned for contempt. And all 10 - and hundreds of others - had been

volving some people almost as ancient

put on a blacklist. Now let us run the spool forward b January 1952, when – with senator Joe McCarthy at the helm - HUAC came back for more. Elia Kazan, one of the most celebrated directors in Hollywood, was summoned before the committee, and asked about a period in the mid 1930s when he ran a left wing theatre group. Would he name those around him at that time,

ONCE AGAIN the American media in- who were members of the Communist dustry has congratulated a part of party? At first Kazan said that he would not. But then, on 10 April, he relented, naming the writers Clifford Odets and Lillian Helman, among others. Those who mounted the demonstration last Sunday night were there because they could not forgive what

they still saw as an act of betrayal. In the wake of Vietnam and détente, the orthodoxy in intellectual circles on both sides of the Atlantic, was totally hostile to the McCarthy witch-hunt and those who collaborated with it. Several films of the 1970s and 1980s, including Woody Allen's The Front, dealt with the impact of the blacklist, the wedge it drove between friends, the suicides that resulted from it, and the huge creative cost it entailed. Arthur Miller's play, The Crucible, is probably the best-known encapsula-

tion of this sentiment. But the award to Kazan reflects the fact that revisionism has been at work here, as elsewhere. The columnist Richard Cohen, writing in The Washington Post argued that Kazans' "cause was good, his method was bad. But now it is only the cause that seems to matter." The cause was anti-communism. And it's the fall of the Berlin wall that has rendered the cause

more important than the method. To take Miller's analogy, what the new thinking says is that there were indeed witches in Salem. Or, at least, there were bloody good reasons for supposing that some citizens were black magic enthusiasts. In the dark years of the early Cold War Stalin's democracy, and local Communists



DAVID AARONOVITCH

Ordinary communists were trying to make sense of a world of exploitation, segregation and injustice

were Stalin's foot-soldiers. Furthermore, with an evil of such illiberal ubiquity, it would have been naive to expect it to be defeated by liberalism alone. This argument was heard in Britain after it was revealed, last year, that the liberal pin-up George Orwell, had passed on to MI5 contacts a list of 35 names of acquaintances who he considered to be Soviet fellowtravellers.

Orwell's little book of names is an uncomfortable read, not least to someone like me who has been converted to him so recently. It is hard to know what to make of his comment that Paul Robeson, the singer and campaigner for black rights was "antiwhite". And the truth about the Hollywood Ten, as Kazan must sure-Russia represented a real danger to ly have known, is that they represented no threat whatsoever to have to make one like it. Even so, in

anyone's way of life. No more than did that instance (and Kazan had seen the New York lavatory attendant, dis- what had happened to Lardner and missed from his job at around this others), it was a cowardly choice, a

time, because he was a communist.

munists in the Cold war period, was press, the studios, the companies and world revolution. What they were trying to do was make ideological sense of a world in which they saw migrant workers exploited, union rights denied, segregation rampant, antireasons, they did not believe anything that their governments or newspapers lived in was not as, say, The Times or the BBC described it. Why then should they believe that Russia was as bad as they were being told?

But it was. Even so, that, I think, isn't the reason that Kazan shopped his old comrades. In his 1988 autobiography, Kazan reports a 1952 conversation with Arthur Miller, in which he had told Miller that, "Skouras (the head of Fox studios] implied that I couldn't work in pictures anymore if I didn't name the other lefties in the group. What the hell am I giving all this un for? To defend a secrecy I don't think right and to defend people who've already been named, or soon would be by someone else? I've hated the communists for many years and don't feel right about giving up my ca-

reer to defend them." It was an agonising decision, and most of us must hope that we never

choice to be on the side of the bully. It is hard for non-communists to ac- and not the bullied. In 1952 the pitiful cept, I know, but the main motivation remnants of the American left were behind those who were ordinary comon one side, and the power of the

not to do with Russia and Uncle Joe and the politicians was on the other. Perhaps that's why Kazan also wrote this in his autobiography: "For years I declared myself an ardent liberal in politics, made all the popular declarations of faith, but the truth was colonial movements suppressed and - and is - that I am, like most of you, injustice rife. And, often for very good a bourgeois. When it comes to the crunch. I am revealed to be a person interested only in what most artists told them. They knew the world they are interested in, himself." A month after Kazan's appearance before HUAC, it was Lillian Hellman's turn. "I cannot and will not cut my conscience to fit this year's fashions," she told the committee.

If the revisionist position is popular at the moment, Hellman's is increasingly a stance that - in these relativist times - intellectuals (not to mention stand-up comedians) have come to admire. Will Self's almost reverential interview with that totally uncompromising American feminist Andrea Dworkin, in the latest edition of the Independent on Sunday, shows how some now value anger and authenticity over respectability. I see this too. But the trick is somehow to embrace courage, without falling for the whole schtick.

It wasn't badness that made some good Americans support Stalin, but a desire to tie up loose ends. The solution is to leave 'em loose.

of its many many empty threats AN ARGUMENT can be made

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"I feel for eight minutes on the screen I should only get a little bit of him." Dome Judi Dench on receiving her Oscar for best supporting actress

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THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"Politics is the art of preventing people from taking part in affairs which properly concern them." Paul Valéry, French poet and essayist

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AIR STRIKES for their own sake will be valueless unless they bring the Serbs back to the negotiating table or halt the carnage being wrought in osovo. Neither seems a pos-sibility. A stronger possibility is protracted involvement in a conflict that will cost lives and set members of the international community against one another. Any action taken now must be with the broadest possible international consensus.

Hong Kong Standard

THE KOSOVO crisis has been handled in such a hare-brained fashion that one can only conclude that no lessons were learned at all from dealing with the Serbs in Bosnia. It is the duty of the Clinton administration to present a plan of action to Congress. What we have heard so far is strategically IIIdefined and open-ended. It is clear that a major loss of credibility has affected Clinton at home as well as abroad for seriously. a number of reasons. Still, this The Washington Times

MONITOR

ALL THE NEWS OF THE WORLD International comment on the prospect of Nato air strikes against Serbia

man, and there is an obligation takes away a piece of land to take American commit- from Yugoslav rule - thereby ments and responsibilities

country is bigger than one ETTHER NATO strikes and provoking a Slav-Orthodox wave of solidarity, or Nato

preparation for the decision to crush Serbia's power of oppression has not strengthened but only weakened Nato. In the end, it will not be important to realise which details were right or wrong but only whether Nato withstood the provocation.

thus even downgrading its

geo-political success in en-

larging to the East. The long

Fronkfurter Allgemeine

ans' Kosovo Liberation Army and the immovable object of Slobodan Milosevic's army and police. But to stretch that intervention into a neo-Wilsonian version of selectively promoting indiscriminate nation-state building seems foolhardy, And can anyone imagine creating a new state by bombing?

for the need to interpose in-

ternational troops between the

irresistible force of the Albani-

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PANDORA

PANDORA READERS will recall the efforts of the conceptual artist Martin Creed to tell the residents in Clapton, London that "Everything is going to be alright". The sentiment was lit up over a Grade-II listed building on Sunday evening and the neonfest was witnessed by a gaggle of locals and curious visitors. Some of the locals remained unimpressed. One told the artist it was "patronising", while another was more concerned with aesthetics: "It looks like a kebab shop sign. There should be a rotating doner in the middle of it." There were positive responses too and assurances

to secure the building's "longterm renovation". Attention turned to Creed, the artist himself. What would he be his next project? "Balloons," came the reply. **BALLOONS ARE also being** used as the weapon of the European Parliament to encourage floating voters to glide into the polls for

that the exercise would help

June's Euro elections. A hot-air balloon will be drifting over Leeds in May to whet the appetite of good Yorkshire folk for a spot of Eurobaliots. After the rumpus at the European Commission, continental democracy needs a boost but is making the obvious link between euro-politics and hot air going to belp?

ONE EC mighty who fell, Edith Cresson, should have seen her own downfall coming. It was Pandora who first alerted the public to allegations that the former French PM was receiving disastrous advice in the form of "private astrology forecasts" from crony René Berthelot. Sadly the advice "dump me or there will be trouble ahead" was not offered by Berthelot. However, the Piaf-invoking ex-commissioner may feel tempted to turn down one function that she was due to attend in Germany this summer It's titled "Ethics and Science - The Social, Juridical and Philosophical Debate."

ACERBIC TV dude Victor Lewis-Smith is in trouble again. The dreadlocked one recently savaged C4's disability show Freak Out in an Evening Standard column. Of thalidomide guy Mat Fraser (pictured) VL-S said: "His biggest disability was his personality." Fair enough - it's equal opportunity vitriol, isn't it? However,



Lewis-Smith in C4's reception area shortly after the review appeared. Fraser confronted the notoriously excitable VL-S and asked him when he would stop cracking disability gags. To

which VL-S characteristically replied that he'd make a particular point of cracking more disability gags in future. Fraser invited VL-S to step outside and settle their differences in a man-to-man fashion. The exchange then deteriorated into a scuffle with Lewis-Smith screaming for the security

guards before legging it. The critic must have rembered pointing out in his own review that Fraser numbers kick-boxing among

SENIOR EXECUTIVES of The Express newspaper are currently holed away deep in the English countryside in a two-day "think-tank" aimed at reviving the paper's disastrously flagging fortunes. But declining sales are not the only hot topic on the agenda. A positively steaming issue among the suits is to determine which one of them survived his less halcyon days by dining on dog food and by making his own shoes. Pandora, too, is intrigued by this sad, shaggy

dog story. Anyone who can

name of the Kennomeat Kid

should call on 0171-293 2869.

come walkies across Blackfriars Bridge with the

SEX FANTASIES of the rich and famous. The now monthly Erotic Review has this insight into the psyche of thesp eye-candy Anna Chancellor. The star of Four Weddings... and ITV's The Vice has Gallic rough diamond Jean Gabin as top of her pops. Chancellor's "dream" is that Gabin (now dead) plays the piano as she enters; the couple then duet on top of the instrument. The climax comes when an elated Gabin lifts Anna off the piano, gazes into her limpid pools and murmurs, "The journey bas just begun. It's time to catch the train again; but this time the couchette will be a double." Cinema lovers who

have seen Gabin's energetic performance in La Bète Humaine already know exactly where this train's

> from Cate Blanchett on going head-to-head with Gwyneth Paltrow for the Best Actress Oscar: "I don't see competition." Now that's what Pandora calls acting.

Contact Pandora by e-mail: pandora@ independent.co.uk

Sorry, I just don't like beardies

AND NOW, as if life were not complicated enough, we have to start worrying about men with beards, the problem of institutionalised beardism and a generalised threat to the right to sprout facial hair.

With a level of wit not usually associated with its home country, the Swedish furniture emporium Ikea has announced that bearded men are to be banned from its Bristol store. Those particularly addicted to the form of shopping purgatory offered by Ikea will be granted temporary beard permits but an uncompromising "Beardies are werdies" policy will be enforced at the store.

It's a marketing stunt, of course. However, already there have huffy, po-faced mutterings from the usual whiskery activists. "No doubt Ikea thinks this is a joke, and we can all laugh at the man with a beard, Private Eye-type cartoon," announced Keith Flett, a regular letter-writer to newspapers and Britain's most frequently outraged man.

However, post the Stephen Lawrence report, what ikea is really doing is reinforcing the attitude that says it is OK to discriminate



TERENCE BLACKER

Imagine Jimmy Hill, Sir Dickie Attenborough and Frank Dobson together and you see the problem

against someone because of who they are and how they look. That is unacceptable."

At this point, the argument becomes as tangled as David Bellamy's beard. Could it be that Flett is having a laugh, too? It seems unlikely.

Apart from the fact that facial hair is a sure sign of humourlessness (think only of the sublime, cleanyears and the dreary, bearded psychobabbler of more recent times), there's the reference to the report on the death of Stephen Lawrence - a jaw-dropping comparison, at least for those of us who have jaws to drop.

Once any form of prejudice is regarded as essentially part of the same moral problem as more serious intolerance, then madness will follow. For example, this column might aiready have prompted several Flettesque letters to the editor: "Sir, To suggest that the famously witty Swedes lack a sense of humour is offensive to... Sir, Your columnist's casual deployment of the term 'psychobabbler' reveals a deep-seated bias against those of us in the psychiatric profession..."

Whatever the reason men have for growing beards (shyness, vanity, perhaps), I'm in favour of them facing up to their dysfunction. An act of self-presentation which, while drawing attention to itself, erversely provides a hedge of protection is surely a cry for help.

Clearly there are good beards as well as bad beards - for every Robin

Cook, Manfred Mann or Maharishi Yogi, there's a David Blunkett, Bob Dylan or Jesus Christ - but, unfortunately, most beards are bad beards. Imagine Sir Dickie Attenborough, Jimmy Hill, Clement Freud, Frank Dobson and Sir Peter Hall in a studio together and you.

begin to see the problem. Obviously, there are worse things than beards. Sideboards, for example. Who, studying the behaviour of the prostitute-stalking prime minister William Gladstone, the severe moralist Sir Rhodes Boyson or Slade's tuneless three-chord basher Noddy Holder, could seriously deny the connection between bushy facial mutton-chops and a problematic personality?

To those who will argue that my beardism is illogical and betrays a deep seated fear of the masculine, I would merely point out that others merely have a different set of prejudices - against people who smoke, or wear fur, or eat the wrong kind of food or talk on mobile telephones in restaurants.

Far from being the first slither down a slope leading to hatred, the amiable expression of minor intolerances is a social safety valve, a provision of colour in an increasingly grey world. Over-reaction to it leads

only to moral confusion. There were signs of the trend a few years ago when Randy Newman's ironic treatment of bigotry, "Short People", led to an absurd row over his alleged prejudice. Since then, knee-jerk disapproval of

attitudes deemed unacceptable has

become the norm. It was there, disturbingly, in the Glenn Hoddle incident and in reactions to the bottom-wiggling antics of the Liverpool footballer Robbie Fowler It was evident in a letter to the London Review of Books in which a correspondent claimed, in apparent seriousness, that the journalist Christopher Hitchens was "a self-confessed homophobe" on the grounds that he had once made a joke about the Cambridge spy ring and had argued that "people's sexual preferences are a le-gitimate subject for humour, dirty humour if at all possible".

The people who find so much of which to disapprove in modern life are almost certainly beardie weirdies, but that it still no excuse.

Is Indonesia becoming the Balkans of the Far East?

JUST A few miles away from the place where I write this, a small coastal town in the Indonesian part of Borneo, human beings are doing unimaginable things to one another in the jungle. Thousands of ethnic Madurese have been burned out of their homes and scores murdered, and the burning and the killings are continuing. In the past three days armed warriors have paraded through their villages carrying severed ears, arms and heads. The motive is pure racial hatred. The police and army are impotent or indifferent. And the same kind of communal violence, for different reasons and by different means, is happening all over Indonesia.

Three weeks ago I was in the Spice Islands where Christians and Muslims are locked into their own murderous battle of religion, a tropical Northern Ireland in the making. Elsewhere in the archipelago, three of Indonesia's 27 provinces have declared their independence - one of them, East Timor, is almost certain to break away from the republic in the next year. In Jakarta, demonstrations against the government are gathering momentum in the approach to June's elections - during the last big demo, in November, 13 people were shot dead.

To Europeans, all this should have a disturbingly familiar ring – a large state, ethnically and religiously diverse, which throws off a corrupt dictatorship, only to find itself stricken by communal violence. Is the world's fourth largest country breaking up? Will Indonesia become an Equatorial Yugoslavia?

It is an urgent question because the consequences of instability here would be serious. Indonesia's 13,000 islands occupy the crossroads of Asia, an area of profound strategic, political and environmental importance to the rest of the world. A sub-



RICHARD LLOYD PARRY

Armed warriors have paraded through their villages carrying severed ears, arms and heads

stantial part of the world's oil passes through the country's territorial waters - prolonged disruption to shipping in the Straits of Malacca. for instance, would seriously affect the economies of both Japan and China. And Indonesia's sprawling expanse makes it a neighbour to the whole region. The prospect of an exodus of refugees from a population of 210 million causes alarm from Canberra to Bangkok.

This is why foreign governments gave such enthusiastic and unquestioning support to President Suharto, the man who bears the greatest responsibility for Indonesia's present turmoil. For 32 years, he ruled a country which, from the outside, appeared to be a model of Third World development. GDP soared, population growth was slowed, poverty was reduced and illiteracy was virtually eliminated. His predecessor, Sukarno, had been an unpredictable demagogue who flirted with communism and fought a low-intensity war with Malaysia. No wonder the countries of the west.

to supply him with arms and to turn a blind eye to the brutal annexation of East Timor. Everyone knew that Suharto's

rule was based upon fear, the more astute could see that the benefits of Indonesia's success were disproproportionately concentrated in Suharto's home, the main island of Java. At the time, however, he seemed to have succeeded in bringing about permanent stability. Only in the last two years it has become obvious what an illusion that was. As a nation state, Indonesia was

always an unlikely proposition the only thing that its diverse people had in common was their colonial history as the former Dutch East Indies. Rather than eliminating ethnic and religious difference, Suharto froze them, forcing unity and stifling dissent with a repressive military apparatus. Last May the thaw set in, and in the last 10 months the old enmities have emerged pristinely from the ice.

This is the best way of understanding the grisly diversity of violence presently on display in Indonesia. The hanging of traditional sorcerers in East Java, and the beheading of Madurese settlers in Borneo have nothing in common in terms of direct motivation. But both are symptoms of the same sickness - a combination of economic distress and the break down of law and order, among populations which have no other means of expressing a deep sense of injustice and pentup frustration.

But there are huge differences as well as similarities, and for several reasons the Balkans experience is unlikely to repeat itself here. The most basic of these is Indonesia's size, a source of passive strength as well as vulnerability. In Yugoslavia, two religions and a handful of eth-Britain among them, were so willing nic groups battle for a geographically



East Timorese villagers preparing their defences

and historically uniform region they are fighting for what they have in common. But Indonesians are as diverse as any people in the world. To an ethnically Chinese Christian yuppy in Jakarta, the independence struggles of animist tribesmen in Irian Jaya are almost as alien as they are to the inhabitants of London or New York. However concentrated laid the ground for independence power may be in Java, no single ethnic or religious group is powerful enough to threaten the whole. For all their frustration with their central government, Indonesia's provinces have much to lose from June - the closest Indonesia has breaking away. East Timor is misleading in this respect for in every way it is an exception. As a former Portuguese colony, it was never part of the Dutch empire and played no part in the Indonesian war of independence. Despite its passive capitulation, the UN never recognised Jakarta's annexation. Indonesia's announcement that it is prepared to give it independence came as a result of international pressure, and a brilliantly effective campaign by NGOs and East Timorese exiles.

East Timor's struggle has been one of principle, but in the rest of the archipelago dissatisfaction has its roots in practical matters. In Borneo, Aceh and Irian Jaya, big corporations have made fortunes in timber, oil and copper with negligible benefit to the population at large. Resentment for this exploitation has movements and outbreaks of violence. But what people want is not sovereignty so much as justice.

All now depends on the outcome of general elections to be held in come to real democracy since 1955. A decisive victory for a popular and visionary president could halt the paralysis which the country is experiencing under Suharto's unpopular successor and appointee. BJ Habibie. But with 48 parties competing and no clear favourite among a handful of frontrunners, such a clean result is unlikely. Instead of sudden anarchy or civil war, Indonesia faces decades of uncertainty, a directionless drift back into

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IN ANY culture the have fragile means of survival responses of citizens and immigrants to each other vary greatly, and neither category forms a

coherent group. London, which has throughout its history been an extraordinarily cosmopolitan city, has seen many reactions to immigration both positive and negative. In London today almost 200

languages are spoken, with 35 language groups of more then 10,000 people, and there is strong representation of all major world religions. There has always been a tension in Britain between a liberal tradition of openness and inclusion and the long, difficult record of discrimination, exploitation and racism.

As we consider the impact of the Stephen Lawrence report we should be able to be positive about the rich and diverse multiracial qualities of London while accepting the facts about racism and engaging deeply in the processes of change necessary to make London, and Britain, less

Racial minorities are perceived as marginal by many white citizens and they often is important not to assume tions experience the tension exchange. In order to flourish worth applying for.

on the margins of economic and social systems in Britain. Yet they are central - both physically, in being concentrated often in the centres of cities and, more importantly, in terms of being the place where we must show that our society can become more just. Of course, not all immigrant

or minority groups are the

same. The largest survey of ethnic minorities in Britain,

completed in 1997 by Madood

and Berthoud for the Policy

Studies Institute, found that dif-

ferences between ethnic

groups are now more marked

than conventional "black and

white" inequalities. It found, for

example, that Bangiadeshis

and Pakistanis are the poorest

groups, with 80 per cent living

below the "poverty line",

whereas African Asians and

Chinese are more likely than

whites to be earning over £500

per week and that they have

lower unemployment rates

As an architect who has

worked on urban plans and

building projects with many

different minority groups in

Britain and elsewhere, I find it

than whites.

PODIUM HUGO HINSLEY

Cherish the politics of diversity

From a speech by the community architect to the Architectural Association's conference in London

that racial or cultural groups are homogenous or can be thought of as a "community". in my experience one cannot assume a coherence in the wishes of a minority group about integration or separate identity, or about any issues affecting their lives - any more than one can find coherence of

groups in white society. Many inner urban areas

block all change in an area is ineffective; achieving real engagement in decisions about change is very difficult, particularly for people who have little power. The negotiation of a process of real and fair improvement needs an effective political process giving the existing population genuine representation and access to information and resources. The forces of exclusion can be strong and people from minorities may be hesitant to

and local initiatives are vital. We can aim for mutual respect and fairer access to resources. But I don't think we should seek a homogenous society and culture. Indeed this seems an impossible as well as an undesirable goal. London, of all cities, demonstrates the energy and creativity that comes from in architecture. Details of the diversity and difference.

forms of negotiation - but

active democratic processes

Rather than seeking a politics of inclusion, a universalising model of contentment, we agree that it is a project with ethnic minority popula- should value adversarial worth supporting and

between urban regeneration such characteristics need a and "gentrification". Trying to society with stronger mechanisms of social justice.

Architectural design can't produce this: economic or social policies - or any other policies alone - can't produce this. But we can learn from positive examples and develop better tools and ideas across professions and through engagement and exchange with locally based initiatives.

We have a long way to go in Britain to achieve this but, even with its many problems, multi-cultural London someenter local politics or other times shows what a better spatial, cultural and political world we could make. As a concrete contribution,

a Stephen Lawrence Scholar ship has been established at the Architectural Association. Stephen planned to study architecture. This is a full-fee award to enable a student of similar background to study at the Architectural Association on the Riba -recognised course scholarship are available form the association, at 36 Bedford Square. I hope you will



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Remedial lessons for Tony



DEBORAH ORR

If Blair thinks his latest scheme is anything other than risible, it's time for him to go back to school

IVE HAD a brilliant idea! Let's take a long, hard look at all of our politicians, find out which ones are performing brilliantly, getting resuits, utterly capable of doing everything that may be expected of them, then send them off for extra tuition On politicking.

Then let's make an exception for hopeless duffers like Tony Blair and send them off for tuition as well. Because Tony is really in need of education, education, education (and if he responds, then he can take time out and reward himself with a little education).

If Tony thinks that his latest initiative, whereby talented pupils can volunteer for extra tuition in the evenings and on Saturday mornings, is anything other than risible, then it's time for him to go back to school. And this time he can go to the kind of school he's had no experience of - a comprehensive.

For there are a few lessons Tony really ought to have learned before he decided he was the best person to run the country on an education bicket, which he clearly knows nothing about. Lessons like: what it is like to be educated at a comprehensive school; why it is that some comprehensive schools are such a mess; and what teenagers at comprebensive schools are like.

In the Seventies, I was educated at a huge new comprehensive myself. So I'm in a good position to teach Tony a few lessons. One fine day in spring 1974, a day that had seemed perfectly normal to myself and the 40 or so other children I'd grown up with though our seven years at primary school, something unusual happened. Without warning or explanation some grown-ups joined out Bachet in the class and handed all of us odd booklets full of gnomic questions, which we were told to fill in under the exam conditions we'd been familiar with

Although it wasn't spelled out to us, we knew that this was something to do with "the big school", which, in the days before parental choice, we'd all be attending the next year.

We were all in the catchment area for Garrion Academy, in Motherwell, which was a source of a little bitterness to some parents, my own included, because we lived about 200 yards out of the catchment



There are some things Tony Blair really ought to have learned before he decided he was the best person to run the country on an education ticket'

area for Dalziel High. Dalziel was a long-established school which had recently gone comprehensive, and had maintained its excellent academic reputation. Garrion, on the other hand, had been recently built to accommodate the children from the new council estates. Its remutation was not so hot.

We duly turned up on the first day at the big school that September, to be greeted with lists pinned to the noticeboard. All of our names were on these lists, we were told at assembly, and we should look at them to find out which teaching class we'd been allocated to. I was thrilled to find I was in 1:1, the top set. But as we all regrouped to discuss what classes we were in, the same problem kept coming up.

Lots of the names on the lists didn't make any sense. Children we knew to be academically weak had been placed in the top sets, while children we knew to be very clever had been placed near the bottom. Margaret Simpson, who'd generally been considered at our primary to be The Cleverest Girl in The Class, had been allotted to 1:3. She was gutted, because only the top two sets got Latin, and she'd fully expected to be amo-ing and amasing with - to use a phrase regarded by some as having no place in discussion of state education - the

the end of the first term there was a huge reshuffle, in which every pupil in the streams that we - in our 12-year-old wisdom -- had known to be wrong was reallocated. What a good job we hadn't been sent to different schools on the basis of the IQ test we'd all taken.

If that had been our fate, these mistakes, frustrating for the bright kids who'd been placed in undemanding sets, miserable for the less academic kids who were humiliated daily by their inability to keep up, could not have been rectified so easily. This is an important lesson not only for Tony Blair but for everyone who feels strongly about grammar school selection. There are all kinds of arguments

for and against grammar schools. posited for all kinds of reasons and driven by all kinds of motives. For me they are mostly irrelevant, because it is utterly impossible to create an infallible system of categorising the academic abilities of children anyway, especially when it focuses on a particular time in a long school career. That's why above all else, our school system should be built with flexibility in mind, and why it's important that all schools should be designed to cater for all possible academic needs.

It's also important that it should be recognised that there are all

As indeed she was, because at kinds of different academic needs among any group of children. While I thrived at my supposedly crappy comprehensive school and, like quite a few of my fellow pupils, went on to study at university, the experience of my younger brother was

> By the time he went to the big school, four years later, setting was out and mixed-ability teaching was in. The idea, laughably, was that it wasn't fair for pupils to be stigmatised by the knowledge that they were in low sets. But as the accurate assessment by my classmates of the shortcomings of the initial setting process at Garrion illustrates. children form pecking orders and are aware of their places within them without any guidance from adults at all.

By the time my brother left school, at 16 and with barely any qualifications at all, he was under the impression that he was thick. He believed that further education was is what is wrong with our schools. not for the likes of him, and his qualifications backed this up. It took many years to persuade him that this was not so, and he is now a mature student, sailing through the course at a leading art college, just as he could have done 15 years ago had he not been taught in classes unsuitable to his needs and also the needs of most of his classmates. So Blair and Blunkett should not be

"encouraging setting". It should be reinstated as compulsory.

But this of course was not the only factor which made my brother's education at the same school so much less effective. Just as the Spartists of the loony left implemented policies that went too far in addressing the world as they would have liked it to be, rather than as it was and is, the Thatcher government came in. I was in my final year at school. I missed the cutbacks, the erosion of morale, the ghettoisation and abandonment of the initially working, later redundant, classes that continued unabated for two long decades.

It is unbelievable that Tony Blair still needs to be taught this, but he does. A flurry of misguided and inflexible educational initiatives. driven by ideological theory rather than academic need, were disastrously followed up by 20 years of hostile and systematic neglect. That and every penny possible should be spent on improving them for all pupils. Earmarking a chunk of funds for those who are, by definition, doing just fine, is the kind of policy that caused all of these troubles in the first place.

If this were the only reason why the new "master class" policy is mind-bogglingly inappropriate, that would be bad enough. But it isn't.

I'll hark back again to my own schooldays and to a particular class, which was the most mixed-ability of the ones that I took part in. I chose physics as one of my O-level sub-

jects, and since only about 12 other girls had chosen the same subject, we were all taught together. Some of the girls were among the most glamorous in our year. Generally bright enough, the thing that marked them apart was that they knew how to be cool. Here, in this intimate environment, I desperately wanted their approval. Since part of being cool involved

assuming a tremendous nonchalance about education, I would not win their admiration by sticking my hand up and answering the teacher's questions. So I didn't, I was interested by the subject and enjoyed it greatly. But I kept quiet about that, and adopted a classroom performance which was, to say the least, muted. It didn't matter because when

exam time came, I could, and did, perform. But if good exam results had meant extra tuition I'd have decided to deliberately bugger them up rather than undergo the ignimony of being singled out and punished for my success. And there was no one in my class who would have done any differently, even though all but one of us passed physics in the end.

RIGHT OF REPLY

DAWN **PRIMAROLO**



General answers a recent article by Natasha Walter on working mothers

NATASHA WALTER ("Women on the verge of breakdown": suggests that the Government is ignoring the plight of parents who are out of work. particularly those with young children for whom choices are not easy. This is simply not the case.

We recognise that there are complex reasons why parents are unable to take paid work at particular times. We took action in the Budget to substantially increase child benefit and income related benefits for children under 11. This clearly shows the Government's commitment to fighting child poverty:

This Government is also delivering for parents who want to work but for whom work simply would not pay under the old system. By targeting tax cuts at those who need them most and introducing the working families tax credit (WFTC) to replace the outdated family credit, the Government is providing real help for people whose needs have been denied in the past. For example, a lone parent earning £85 a week, working more than 16 hours and with a young child will receive WFTC: an extra £86.55 to supplement her wages through the WFTC and the more generous child benefit.

We are also tackling the financial uncertainty felt by many lone parents thinking about moving from welfare to work by allowing them to continue to receive income support payments for two weeks after they move into work,

We also recognise that, with want to work, so the WFTC will provide more generous help with childcare and tackle the situation where many second earners would have lost over 70 pence of every extra pound they earned in tax. So we are working to

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ensure every child and parent is given real opportunity.

Love, art and fatal pride

TIS difficult to know another nation's poets. Translation, as Cervantes cleverly put it, is the reverse side of the tapestry. Pushkin, the greatest name in Russian literature according to his fellow countrymen, had the extra problem of being active just before the arrival of the first truly modern medium - photography.

Byron laboured under the same

disadvantage but put himself scandalously about Europe whereas Pushkin, despite pleas, was never allowed to travel beyond the territories of the tear. His name largely came to the west through the works of the many famous Russian composers he managed to inspire. Yet his life was extraordinary, as a recent spate of biographies has reminded us. His death was more extraordinary still, and this is the subject of Serena Vitale's painstaking examination.



best of them.

TUESDAY BOOK

PUSHKIN'S BUTTON BY SERENA VITALE, TRANSLATED BY ANN GOLDSTEIN AND JON ROTHSCHILD, FOURTH ESTATE, £16.99

Born into a dishevelled aristocratic family, Pushkin was the greatgrandson of Peter the Great's African

favourite, Hannibal. This tincture of blackness appearing in St Peters-burg, the snowy babylon of the north, set him aside from all his contemporaries. Literary genius - the prose is hardly less wonderful than the poetry - enhanced his misfit status at every turn. And acclaim came quickly. Rude, passionate, anxious, charming, he easily managed to get himself exiled to remote provinces for his irreverent

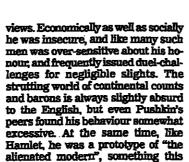
TUESDAY POEM

SECONDHAND BOOKSHOP

An elderly man peruses a Northern

European Flora; he phones his wife for guidance. Upstairs, I discover that Jesus lived in India, having spent his glorious hidden years learning to live life by almost taking leave. His crucified feet walked there; the Kashmir rug pulled back: I read stigmata on the tomb. Later, I search for a bidding price for Florence Nightingale's advice - tes soothes the early morning waker, although jelly and meat juice leave much to be desired; so count those scenes of London for the unknown engraver has walked.

From Sarah Law's first collection, 'Bliss Tangle', published at £6.95 by Stride Publications, 11 Sylvan Road, Exeter EX4 6EW



book strongly conveys. Eventually, the tsar invited Pushkin for a private interview and decided to become the poet's personal censor. Far from being an advantage, Pushkin found this even more suffocating while, being an aggressive snob, he also feit he should have been accorded a higher rank than he was. Obviously, his personality also had allure: after a womanising youth he married "the most beautiful woman in St Petersburg," the 19-year-old daughter of a businessman and the youngest of three sisters. The isar took a great liking to her; too. She was in constant demand, and Pushkin's court expenses rocketed accordingly.

Enter Baron Georges d'Anthes, a French adventurer in the Russian army and adopted son of the Dutch ambassador to St Petersburg. He fell ecstatically in love with Mrs Pushkin. Anonymous letters were sent (but not by d'Anthes) to the poet, welcoming him to the Order of Cuckolds. Pushkin challenged d'Anthes to a duel but was calmed by intermediaries.

to the story, now married Mrs



Russia's greatest poet, killed by a duellist's pistol

Pushkin's sister to be closer to his ims," following this with four dreadbeloved. Two weeks after the mar-ful examples. Her own are much betlenge, though Mrs Pushkin and the Frenchman had never been alone together except once for a few minutes (and Pushkin himself was occasionally sleeping with the third of the sisters). The poet was wounded in the duel and died two days later, aged 37. D'Anthes, aged 25, was banished from Russia.

Serena Vitale's account of the final days is the most moving and effective part of the book, probably because it is the least fussy. Elsewhere she can be very confusing and sometimes degenerates into claptrap. "The Muse is a clever prima donna, seldom yielding to mortals, carefully timing her forays into the world and savouring their effects in advance." Can one conceive of a sentence with less meaning?

Like all Italians, she has an instinctive empathy with the artist: "When he wasn't writing, Pushkin was always on edge." But she is not very good at convincing us of The Frenchman, in a strange twist Pushkin's greatness. At one point she remarks "He stuns us with his max-

riage, Pushkin issued another chalter. "Being in the centre of things does poets no good." And the best ouip in the book is not from Pushkin but from his friend Delwig. "The closer one gets to heaven, the colder it is." The chief drawback is that, in coming so close to her subject, she

vapourises it. All is reduced to speculation. But this does mean that she knows her sources backwards and builds up her dossier in episodic form that has a pungent immediacy.

Her particular achievement is the discovery, in the Paris attic of one of the Dutch ambassador's descendants, of letters from d'Anthes to his adoptive father which reveal that they were long-term lovers, thus modifying all future biographies of Pushkin. More archival material is still coming and Pushkin studies are very lively. There is a further archive, held by another of the Dutch ambassador's descendants, which remains firmly closed. Serena Vitale might well have to produce another book before long. DUNCAN FALLOWELL

★THE INDEPENDENT INTERNATIONAL

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Patrick Heron

PATRICK HERON was one of the most distinguished painters of his time. He was also a brilliant writercritic, a robust polemicist and a highly effective campaigner for causes close to his heart.

He knew from a very early age that he was to be an artist, a vocation encouraged with great seriousness by parents of remarkable vision. He spoke without affectation or irony of his infant efforts, signed and dated from the age of five, and carefully preserved in large buff envelopes, as "early drawings". His long career came to a spectacular climax only last year with a highly successful retrospective at the

Some thought this a tribute overdue, but in fact it was perfectly timed. Had it come even a few years sooner, it would have lacked the complex and beautiful "Sydney Garden" paintings of the late Eighties and early Nineties, and the extraordinary "Big Paintings" whose ecstatic energy and insouciant mastery thrilled and astonished a generation of painters 50 years younger than the artist when they were shown at Camden Arts Centre in 1994. Heron was able to survey, with the infectious pleasure he took in his own work, a lifetime's achievement whose diversity was informed at every point by an aesthetic coherence.

Heron's artistic journey was constantly eventful and unpredictable, marked by sudden intuitive breakthroughs to new expressive possibilities, new ways of response to the light and colour of the world. Sometimes he systematically explored a particular idea, producing numerous variations on a theme, as with the soft-edge abstract "direction of colour" paintings of the early Sixties, and the distinctive "wobbly hardedge" paintings of the following decade. Sometimes, under the creative pressure of a particular experience, he produced a spate of new work at great speed, as with the tachiste "garden" paintings of 1956, the "horizon" and "stripe" paintings of 1957-58, and the astonishing series of small gouaches and large oils made when he was artist-inresidence at the Art Gallery of New South Wales in Sydney in the summer of 1989-90. The great late "Big Paintings" shown in 1994 were made in bursts of intensive activity in the first eight months of that year. Underlying every phase were his

constant preoccupations: with colour as space; with line as an indicator of dynamic relations as well as of description of form; insistence on the primacy of decorative order in the composition of images that begin and end with the four edges of the paper or the canvas. Behind them lay the deeper thought: that these pictorial dynamics are signs and epiphanies of a greater natural ordering, and that painting is a revelation of that beautiful harmony. "The ancient jector in the Second World War, and valid response of the painter to the three years of heavy agricultural labworld around him," he once wrote, "is one of delight and amazement, and we must recapture it."

In making good that reclamation Heron used that most rare and uncanny of gifts: the ability to invent an imagery that was unmistakably his own, and yet which connects immediately with the natural world as we perceive it, and transforms our vision of it. Like those of his acknowledged masters, Braque, Matisse and Bonnard, his paintings are at once evocations and celebrations of the visible, discoveries of what he called "the reality of the eye".

Patrick Heron was born at Headingley, Leeds, in 1920, the eldest of a family whose history on both sides was of an uncompromising nonconformism. His father, Tom Heron, a textile manufacturer and entrepreneur of genius, was a Christian pacifist who had been a conscientious objector in the First World War, and an unorthodox socialist. He was also an art lover. If Patrick inherited his political idealism and his fearless activism from Tom, he owed to his



Heron at the Tate Gallery, London, in June last year for his spectacular retrospective

mother, Eulalie, whose background was of combative pacifism and of a high-minded culture of the mind and spirit, his intensity of visual response, his preternaturally passionate eye for the natural world.

His parents remained deeply important to him throughout his life, the original source of his confidence in his own creative powers, and the continuing inspiration of his ethical and political engagement in the affairs of the world. He was himself to register as a conscientious obouring in appalling conditions exacerbated the asthma that had dogged him since childhood, but which he refused to declare for exemption.

Possessed of intense political emotions, Heron was a lifelong socialist and pacifist, a founding member of CND, and a bravely active conservationist. He hated with a passion the successive Tory govern-ments of the Eighties and Nineties, refusing a knighthood when it was offered by his bete noire Margaret Thatcher. The return of a Labour government in 1997 was an occasion of great joy to him.

He was an inveterate controversialist, and a master of trenchant polemical prose. As an artist of distinction outside the education system, his disinterested writings against the merger of the English art schools with the polytechnics in the early Seventies and on subsequent developments in art education earned him enduring respect and affection amongst artist-teachers. In the Sixties and the Seventies he conducted several successful cam-

ing a celebrated fight in 1961 against the might of the Admiralty when it sought to requisition the Zennor headlands and moors as a troop exercise area. From his eyrie at its highest point above the sea he maintained until his dying day an eagle eye on the twisting road that leads from St Ives to St Just, watching for any sign of straightening to its ancient track-line or of "improvement" to its green walls and banks.

The energising convictions behind these time-consuming

In 1925 the Heron family removed from Leeds to Newlyn, where Tom was to run Crysede Silks, a modest textile business. Tom arranged its move to expanded premises on the Island at St Ives, and rapidly built up the firm with extraordinary flair. Patrick's early years in Cornwall were idyllic: he was never to forget the impressions of light, colour and landscape that streamed in upon him in what be called the "sacred land" of his childhood.

What remained with him, almost and public actions were those of a as an obsession, was his memory of Courtauld collection. At St George's,

paigns in defence of the unique an idea that animated Heron's rocky outcrops and huge boulders landscape of West Penwith, includ-creative and political life.

Following a break-up with his partner, Tom Heron left St Ives in late 1929 to set up Cresta Silks at Welwyn Garden City. In 1932, Patrick was sent to St George's School, Harpenden, a co-educational boarding school, where he was positively encouraged by a remarkable art master, Ludvig van der Straeten, who on one unforgettable occasion drove his 13-year-old pupil to the National Gallery and stood him, enthralled, in front of Cézanne's great Mont St

There is a greater natural ordering, thought Heron, and painting is a revelation of that harmony. 'The ancient valid response of the painter to the world around him,' he wrote, 'is

profoundly decent man, inalienably patriotic without any disfiguring prejudice, who justly saw himself as upholding a native radical tradition that went back to Ruskin, Morris and Shaw and was exemplified in his own time by Herbert Read and Bertrand Russell. At its heart was a vital sense of the centrality of art and imagination to the truly experienced life: "You are free when you are doing a

good drawing," his father wrote in

a letter to Patrick at school. "... free-

dom in creative work - this idea of

freedom is what we have to carry

into our social organisation". It was

the winter of 1927-28 spent at Eagles Nest, the house on the promontory above Zennor to which he was to return to live, and never after leave. in 1956. The house was borrowed from Hugh Arnold-Forster, the Labour luminary, in the hope that the altitude and atmosphere would be good for the child's asthma. Arnold-Forster's planting of the extraordinary garden was well under way, but the many shrubs and flowering trees collected from southernhemisphere highlands that are among its glories now were then no taller than small bushes, and its

one of delight and amazement, and we must recapture it

Heron was allowed to paint through the afternoons whilst his contemporaries played compulsory games. When he left, in 1937, without formal qualifications, he was invited to attend at the Slade School of Art.

From 1934 his father had commissioned from him designs for silk scarves and textile designs. (After the war Heron was for several years Cresta's principal designer.) In spite of a precocious accomplishment, his two years at the Slade were a time of boredom and uncertainty. The war came, and there was little opportunity for creative work. In late 1943,

ill and exhausted, he was ordered by

doctors to stop labouring, and not long after, Bernard Leach, a family friend from Criseyde days, invited him to take up an approved work placement at the St Ives Pottery. Heron worked there as a journeyman potter for 14 months, and the example of Leach's creative integrity, and his subtlety as an artist with the "power to materialise a concept" were formative of his own artistic philosophy.

In 1945 Heron married Delia Victoire, then on loan from the school in Welwyn Garden City in 1929. In her he had found the perfect companion, whose feeling for art and nature perfectly matched his in 1940 the small French Matisse monograph with colour reproductions that he had carried everywhere during his wartime experience. Beautiful and intelligent, she was utterly committed to his work but fiercely independent of spirit. In his own words, she was his "best and most essential critic". They lived in London, in Addison Avenue, Holland Park, but for the next seven years they spent every summer in St Ives at a house on the sea wall, whose interior with its view of the bay, and the figures of Delia and his daughters, was to feature in many paintings over that period.

These were painted in his London studio. Heron rarely drew or painted from the motif, feeling that memory was a crucial element in the invention of images: these should not merely register appearances, but record their impact upon the receiving imagination. "Seeing," he

wrote in 1956, "is not a passive but an active operation . . . all art is a convention, an invention. Painting may literally claim to alter the look of the world for us. We only see nature through a system of images, a configuration which painting supplies."

The exception to this rule were the handful of portraits he made at different times in his career, most notably of T.S. Eliot, Herbert Read, Jo Grimond and Antonia Byatt, which began with drawings or oil sketches. but these, too, were always finished in solitude.

In 1956, by a surprising turn of events, he was able to buy Eagles Nest, to which he moved with his young family in April, to be enchanted by the springtime azaleas and camellias, and to find his work immediately take on a new spirit and new forms. For at that moment he moved decisively, once and for all from the Braque-influenced linear figuration of his post-war work to a fully liberated abstraction, capable of infinite development.

From that time on, the house was to be the centre of his imaginative existence; it was, he wrote much later, "very nearly the greatest passion of my life". Animated by Delia's personality, Eagles Nest became a magical centre of hospitality for the brilliant and sometimes turbulent company of artists and writers that made St Ives and its environs a place of extraordinary artistic vitality during the Fifties, Sixties and Seventies, When Delia died, suddenly, in 1979. Heron was devastated, and for many months he was unable to work.

Many of his artist friends. William Scott, Roger Hilton, Bryan Wynter, Terry Frost and Peter Lanyon among them, owed much to Heron's intelligent critical championship of their work, writing on and off as the New Statesman and Nation art critic from 1947 to 1954, and then as London correspondent for Arts (New York) between 1955 and 1958. He was an exciting writer, capable of subtle analysis and great clarity of utterance. By nature a celebratory critic, he had a gift for precise description of the plastic qualities of painting, and of those specific aspects of technique and manner that distingwished one artist from another.

His talents as an art critic were those of one whose knowledge was derived from creative practice. He began by contributing a series of remarkably authoritative essays in 1945 and 1946, on Nicholson, Braque, Klee and Picasso among others, to The New English Weekly. Edited writings and lectures were published in 1955 as The Changing Forms of Art, and a further selection, Painter as Critic, appeared at the time of his Tate retrospective.

In 1958 Heron gave up criticism, but he returned to write a number of articles in the mid-Sixties that were components of a brave and sus-Reiss, whom he had met at his first tained campaign against what he described as "a kind of cultural imperialism" in the programmatic promotion, world-wide, of American art. This climaxed in 1974 with the own. It was Delia who had given him publication over three days of a closely argued 14,000-word article in The Guardian. In later years he wrote illuminating essays on Bonnard, late Picasso and Matisse.

Heron was a handsome, elegant man, disarmingly charming and attentive to others. He was an emphatic and witty conversationalist, a marvellous story-teller and a wicked mimic. The range of his friendship was exceptionally broad and inclusive for he was capable of inspiring great love and affection on the slightest acquaintance. He is survived by his daughters, Katherine and Susanna, of whose achievements, respectively as architect and artist, he was justly proud.

MEL GOODING

Patrick Heron, artist born Headingley, Yorkshire 30 January 1920; CBE 1977; married 1945 Delia Reiss (died 1979; two daughters); died Zennor, Cornwall 19 March 1999.

Jean Guitton

JEAN GUITTON - Christian philosopher, writer, painter, novelist and journalist – was the friend of statesmen, politicians, presidents and fellow authors as well as of theologians and philosophers.

He was a friend and disciple of Henri Bergson, who made him one of his literary executors. He had profound reverence for Teihard de Chardin. Camus became his friend after being influenced by his Portrait de Monsieur Pouget, and early work written while he was imprisoned in a stalag, published by Gallimard while he was still in the concentration camp. Pouget was a self-educated peasant of immense learning, a blind Lazarist priest and visionary recluse whose example taught Guitton fundamental moral and religious principles that were to guide his whole life, and to show him how to reconcile Catholicism with the realities of contemporary science and history. It also taught him com-

passion for those in spiritual and material distress. One of his most brilliant pupils at the Lycée du Parc at Lyon was the future Marxist philosopher Louis Althusser, who in a fit of folly murdered his wife in 1980 and was confined to an asylum for life, during which time he had the faithful support of his old teacher.

Yet Guitton's earliest teacher of the Christian faith was his own mother, to whom he pays fervent tribute in the following words: I who have had no other teacher of reli-

I wan have had no other teacher or religion than my mother, still remain true to a way of belonging to the Catholic Church, to the sacraments and to God in a manner different from all my cootemporaries. My mother alone formed my concept of faith, and for a very par-ticular reason. In 1905, my parents did something scandalous: while all the family had been raised under the Jesuits. Pius X condemned this kind of conduct.

He took a degree in philosophy, which he taught in various provin-

being appointed in 1955 to the Faculty of Letters as Professor of the History of Philosophy at the Sorbonne. As he had been a noncollaborationist supporter of Pétain under the Vichy regime, this appointment at first met with some resistance from students and staff.

The greater part of Guitton's work is centred on questions of faith in an age of science. He was a fervent ecumenicist, and had early adopted the second Viscount Halifax's concept of a "corporate union" of the divided churches. Though Lord Halifax was an Anglican, Guitton found common ground with his ideas through the works of Cardinal Newman. Guitton regarded himself as a true "free-thinker", insisting that "Catholic" meant "universal". He believed that all the Church's present troubles, since the Second Vatican Council, were caused by the extinction of the mysterious and mys-

cial schools and universities before tical aspects of liturgical prayer. It is no wonder that he had sympathy and admiration for traditionalists like Monsignor Lefebvre who rejected the modernised form of the Catholic liturgy and defied suspension and excommunication, Guitton also blamed the Church's new attitudes for the proliferation of sects.

He conversed with and often disagreed with contemporary philosophers. After his encounter with Heidegger, he wrote, with his familiar little touch of harmless malice: Heidegger and Bergson had the same kind of look, like the Athenian owl, the look of privacy taken by surprise. Hei-degger was a Swabian peasant with nei-ther talent nor eloquence. Bergson, on the contrary, was all talent, a fountain of

Jean Guitton became a friend of Pope Paul VI, who on his last day on earth asked him to read to him from Guitton's Children's Catechism, in which he emphasised the positive aspects of faith: hope, happiness, kind- tomb - he put his trust not in God

ness rather than the threats of hellfire and the Devil as rewards for sinful life. He was the first layman ever to be invited to address the Vatican Council in 1962. He was attentive to the problems posed for the faithful by biology and astrophysics, and his advice was to study scientific laws and observe those of the Gospels.

In one of his last works, Mon testament philosophique (1997), Guitton converses entertainingly and illuminatingly with a wide variety of characters, beginning with Lucifer and ending with François Mitterrand. by way of Pascal, Bergson, Charles de Gaulle, Aristotle, St Augustine and St Thérèse of Lisieux. He praises the virtues of the Internet to de Gaulle, and acts as father confessor to Mitterrand, who was obsessed and frightened by the prospect of a life after death. Guitton comments, with his little acid note: "He thought I had a private line to life beyond the

but in 'specialists'. He'd have consulted a butcher about butchering."

Guitton was also a gifted painter. and through Jean Cocteau carried out the decoration of the Chapel of the Premonstratensians in Rome. But he will be remembered as a professor of life as well as of philosophy. The oldest member of the Academie Française - "Immortals" as they are popularly known - already has his own place in our intellectual heavens. At the end of Mon testament philosophique, he even contemplates his own funeral, which he obviously hopes will be a state occasion with a day of national mourning at the Invalides. A forgivable ambition in a man endowed with spiritual grace and rich scholarship.

JAMES KIRKUP

Jean Guitton, philosopher, writer and painter: born Saint-Etienne, Guitton: invited as a layman to



France 18 August 1901; died Paris address the Second Vatican Council in 1962

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BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS

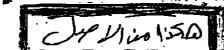
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LECTURIS

National Gallery Colin Aiggins, "Ingress and der Ingres and the 20th century" tpm Victoria and Albert Museum Caroline huncil. Decorative from ork for Houseer pro National Portrait Gallery Jonathan Stephenson Artists Technique Series: the my story of Mi Toms . 1.10pm

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HAE TUI SDAY REVIEW

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José Agustín Goytisolo

JOSE AGUSTIN Goytisolo, the eldest and best of three literary brothers, was a key figure in a group who revitalised lyrical poetry in the 1950s after civil war and Franco's dictatorship had crushed Spanish intellectual life.

"We were few, but we made a noise," he said about his fellow poets hased in Barcelona, known as the "1950s generation". He called himself a "sniper from the left" in the dark days of Franco's rule when it was impossible for Spanish artists or writers to remain politically neutral. He was imprisoned on several occasions.

Too young to have fought in the Civil War, he became a fierce anti-Francoist after his mother, Julia Gay, was killed in the Fascist bombardment of Barcelona in 1938, when he was 10. His family, prosperous Spanish-speaking Catalans, were devastated by the tragedy. José Agustín named his daughter Julia in memory of his mother He never joined a political party, al-

though he - like his brothers, Juan and Luis – was close to the Communists and he considered his art as a political instrument. "There were no rules, everybody wrote what they wanted and the only things we had in common were the colloquial tone, the use of satire, the celebration of the city and the opposition to Franco's regime," the poet said of those early years.

Goytisolo studied at Barcelona University, then in Madrid, and graduated as a lawyer. As a student he flung himself into the hedonistic enjoyment of drink, tobacco and sex that he maintained throughout his life. His first work, El Retorno ("The Return"), published in 1955, showed his rebellious spirit. This was followed in 1956 by Salmos al Viento ("Psalms in the Wind") and in 1959 by Claridad ("Clarity"). In Algo Sucede ("Something's Happening", 1968), he restated the value of poetry as a political weapon.

Irony, sarcasm and a passionate de-



Goytisolo: 'We were few, but we made a noise'

fence of liberty ran through his work, all of which enjoyed huge popularity and was reprinted again and again. Best known is his poem "Palabras para Julia" ("Words for Julia") dedicated to his daughter and commemorating his mother, a tender encouragement to

overcome bitter times and celebrate life.

"You can't go back / because life is already pushing you / with an intere how! / You will feel trapped / you will feel lost or alone / sometimes you will wish you had not been born. /

Never give up nor fall / by the wayside, never say / I can't do more, enough. / Life is beautiful, you'll see . . . "

The poem was set to music by the singer Paco Ibañez, and the two men toured the country in the mid-1990s to huge acclaim in a stage show entitled La Voz y la Palabra ("The Voice and the Word") in which the singer sang and the poet recited his works. He remained prolific up to his death.

Prone to depression, Goytisolo was reported to have committed suicide by died Barcelona 19 March 1999.

throwing himself from his flat in Barcelona. But his wife and daughter said he had many projects in preparation and that, with his customary fussiness for domestic order had been trying to mend a shutter when the fatal

ELIZABETH NASH

José Agustín Goytisolo, poet: born Barcelona 13 April 1928; married Asunción Carandell (one daughter);

ARCHITECTURAL NOTES

ALEX KING

Monuments with no fixed meaning

THE PUBLIC'S relationship quently a difficult one. Moniments are often sources of friction and argument. Before they are completed they arouse controversy about how to say whatever they are intended to say and, afterwards, about what they really mean. A deep and widely shared desire to commemorate someone or something, such as the victim of disasters or wars, does not make things easier. For, if a whole community is genuinely interested in making a memorial, it brings all its divisions and mixtures of motives to the work.

Probably the most popular European memorials, at least when they were built, were those to the dead of the Great War, but there has been little lasting agreement about their purpose, quality or effectiveness. From the beginning, there were differences about what they ought to mean. In 1920, the Lord Mayor of Leeds was in favour of "a reminder of bereavement" rather than a celebration of victory. A Glaswegian, writing to the local press, wanted memorials to remind coming generations of the heroism of their forefathers and the greatness of the stock they have sprung from". The war correspondent Philip Gibbs wanted them to be "the safeguard of the living by teaching those who follow to learn

to cherish the gift of peace".

dom by our stupidity, and

membering the dead was loudly debated year after year on Armistice Day in speeches, sermons and newspaper editorials, inescapably connecting mourning for the dead with questions about domestic and world politics which the circumstances of their deaths had raised. Consequently, memorials became pegs on which to hang a great variety of conflicting views.

Even though they were intended to assuage bitterness and loss, memorials and the memories associated with them offered no answers to questions about the meaning of war and death. On the contrary, they forced people to keep asking whether the consequences of the war had been worth the suffering, and what could be done to give some retrospective meaning to it all.

Looking at these memorials today, there is hardly a hint that they were once the centre of so much controversy. Most of them appear thoroughly conventional, and remarkably reticent in the face of the disasters which the Great War brought forth. But their reticence was their great strength. Because they rarely attempted to force a point of view on their audiences about the ultimate value of death in war, beyond saying that the dead had been honourable, people who would never agree on the subject were prepared to join together in building them and treating them with rev-The significance of re- erence. Within generous lim-

its, memorials were open to interpretation, and those who joined in erecting them, and later joined the ceremonies held at them, took full advantage of the freedom they were offered to justify their mvolvement in terms which satisfied their own desires and interests. They spelt out the meanings they preferred to see in memorials through ritual acts, dedicatory addresses and critical interpretations. While some people interpreted them as monuments to national triumph over rival peoples, and to the glory of British arms, others saw them as reminders of the horror waste and ultimate &. tility of war, and as important devices in the campaign to

prevent war occurring again The meaning of monuments like these is not fixed. It depends not so much on what the memorials look like as on how the public become involved with them - in commissioning and building them, honouring and talking about them. Because war memorials played a crucial part in questioning and campaigning on urgent contemporary issues, public involvement with them remained vigorous and argumentative for two decades between the World Wars. In this respect they were a remarkable success.

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LIAMS

Alex King is author of Memorials of the Great War in Britain: the symbolism and politics of remembrance' (Berg Publishers, £14.95)

Betty Roché

IF EVER anyone was at the right place at the wrong time, it was Betty Roché. Despite the inspiration and sure-

footed nature of his music, Duke Ellington's taste in band singers proved controversial, and most of them only found grudging acceptance from jazz fans. But nobody argued over Betty Roché. She had a particularly clear diction, and her style was light and swinging, particularly suited to Ellington's music of the Forties. Her recording of Ellington's signature tune "Take the A Train" with the hand in 1952 has remained one of the Despite it, Roché slipped through a crack in the floorboards.

Ivie Anderson had been the singer with the Ellington band throughout the Thirties. "Poor health" was the altruistic reason given for her leaving the band in 1942. But in fact she left to oversee the running of her Los Angeles restaurant "Ivie's Chicken Shack". Ellington replaced her with a trio of girl singers. One of them, Phyllis Smiley, left fairly quickly. Another, Joya Sherrill, had to leave the band at the end of the summer to go back to school. The third girl,

Roché, stayed on. Like so many future stars, Roché had started off by winning a talent contest at the Apollo Theater in Harlem when she was 17. This led eventually to her joining the Savoy Sultans, the resident band at the Savoy Ballroom, in 1941. subway train that famously travelled



Roché: 'Take the A Train'

Typifying the episodic nature of Roche's career, the band broke up soon after she ioined it. She made her first record on the band's last recording session, a song called "At's In There". She also sang briefly for bands led by the tenor sax player Lester Young and trumpeter Hot Lips Page.

She travelled to Hollywood in 1942 with the Ellington band to make the film Reveille With Beverly (also featuring Frank Sinatra and the Count Basie and Bob Crosby bands). Roché was to sing "Take the A Train". The A Train was a

through New York to Harlem. As she tended version of "Take the A Train" get to Harlem", the train was shown typical of Hollywood - racing across the

The American musicians' union (the AFM) had imposed a ban on recording that lasted throughout Roche's period with Ellington and she was thus denied the fame that would undoubtedly have come to her had she featured on the

In January 1943 Ellington's became the first black band to give a concert at version that most people remember. first performance of one of his most controversial compositions, his 45-minute Black, Brown and Beige" suite. Roché sang the famous "Blues" section, with its pyramid-like construction of lyrics. This piece was designed to express the feelings of black life in the cities of America at the beginning of the century. The concert was recorded, but the results were not issued until 40 years later. By the time Ellington recorded a studio version in 1944, Roché had left the band.

Roché's attitude to working tended towards the feckless and she left Ellington during 1943, eventually joining the band led by the pianist Earl Hines in 1944, with whom she also recorded in, she didn't stay long, and left music altogether for a number of years, unexpectedly rejoining Ellington in 1951. In June 1952 she recorded the ex-

sang "You'll find it's the quickest way to with the band, and this became so successful that Ellington repeated it in all his broadcasts of the time. It was to be the high point of her career, and when she left the band again in 1954 Ray Nance, a highly original trumpeter and singer with the band, continued to use the version of the song that Roché had created. The album that included Roche's performance of the song is still a big seller today, and it is this version, rather than the original solely instrumental

> She recorded an album for the Bethlehem label in 1956, predictably called Take the A Train, and another, Singin and Swingen', for Prestige in 1960. Her last album was done for Prestige the following year. Although she worked sporadically in clubs, she seemed to be half-hearted about her career, and eventually slipped into obscurity a few

Ellington wrote of her in his autobiography, "She had a soul inflection in a bop state of intrigue and every word was understandable despite the sophisticated hip and five connotations." STRVE VOCE

Mary Elizabeth Roché, singer: born Wilmington, Delaware 9 January 1920; married: died Pleasantville, New Jersey 16 February 1999.

Jurisdiction test for industrial tribunal

WHEN DECIDING whether an industrial tribunal had invisdiction to bear a claim of unfair dismissal under section 196(2) of the Employment Rights Act 1996, the correct test in deciding whether an employee ordinarily worked within Great Britain was the "contract test", which obliged the court to look to the terms of his contract of employment. In relation to the question of jurisdiction for the purposes of section 6(2) of the Sex Discrimination Act 1975, a tribunal had to consider not where an employee

discrimination, he was "wholly or mainly" working. The Court of Appeal upheld the decision of the Employment Appeal Tribunal that an industrial tribunal had lacked iurisdiction to hear the appellant's complaint of unfair dismissal, but remitted her claim of discrimination on the ground of her sex to a different

ordinarily worked, but where

at the time of the alleged

industrial tribunal. The appellant had worked for Saudi Arabian Airlines as a flight attendant until her resignation in 1996. Her contract of employment made no provision as to where she would be based save that "the employee shall be based at any location to which Saudi operates in or out of the Kingdom and may be transferred from one location to another". The contract also provided "this contract will be treated as cancelled without notice or compensation to the employee should any of the conditions stipulated for employment or service continuation cease, such as medical or

TUESDAY LAW REPORT

23 MARCH 1999

Carver (née Mascarenhas) v Saudi **Arabian Airlines** Court of Appeal

(Lord Justice Beldam, Lord Justice Ward and Lord Justice Mantell) 17 March 1999

The appellant was based in London, during which time all her tours of duty began and ended at Heathrow airport. Long haul flights were usually between London and Jeddah or Rivadh, with intermediate flights between Jeddah and/or Rivadh and other Middle East destinations.

The appellant claimed before an industrial tribunal to have resigned to have a baby, pregnancy being incompatible with her employment. She alleged that she had been unfairly constructively dismissed in breach of section 94(1) of the Employment Rights Act 1996; and that she had been discriminated against by her employer on the ground of her sex contrary to section 6(2)(b) of the Sex

Discrimination Act 1975. The industrial tribunal found that the appellant did not ordinarily work within Great Britain and was thus not qualified to bring a complaint within the tribunal's jurisdiction under either Act. Its decision was upheld on appeal to the Employment Appeal Tribunal. physical fitness, or pregnancy". David Bean QC and Thomas Linden (Pottinson & Brever) for the appellant: Timothu Brennon (Clifford Chance) for the respondent

Lord Justice Mantell said that for the purposes of section 196(2) of the Employment

Rights Act 1996, the correct test in deciding whether under his contract of employment an employee ordinarily worked outside Great Britain was the "contract test", which obliged the court to look to the terms of the contract rather than what had actually happened during the employment.

So viewed, and looking at the whole period contemplated by the contract, it was clear that the appellant's base could have been nowhere other than Jeddah. There had accordingly been no flaw in the reasoning of the industrial tribunal nor in the rejection of the appellant's appeal by the Employment Appeal Tribunal in relation to the claim of unfair dismissal.

For the purposes of section 6(2) of the Sex Discrimination Act 1975, however, the industrial tribunal had had to consider not where the appellant ordinarily worked, but where, at the time of the alleged discrimination she was "wholly or mainly" working. It had, therefore, erred in deciding the question of jurisdiction on where the appellant was ordinarily working.

The question of jurisdiction under the 1975 Act should be remitted to a differently constituted industrial tribunal with a direction to determine the question of jurisdiction on the basis of where the appellant had been wholly or mainly working at the relevant time.

Barrister

KATE O'HANLON

pleasures in life than smiling and affixing [sic] to somebody's ineptitude, nothing is more galling than not understanding

why others have done so. The Latin has a resonance which pales the English thus. It was around

HAWTREE sic, adv. and v.

1889 verb did not take off: "the modern reviewer's taste is not really shocked by half the things he sics". Absent from the OED is the American usage, to set. As Miles Davis grumbled:

lawyers on me like she did. trying to serve me divorce papers everywhere I went."

GAZETTE

BIRTHS, **MARRIAGES** & DEATHS

DEATHS

PLAYFAIR: On 21 March 1998, peacefully at home in London, Sir Edward Playfair KCB, aged 88, much-loved husband of Molly father of Sarah, Mary and Emma, and grandiather of Tabilita, Leo, Ned, Pia, Sam and Jo. The cremation has taken place, At his request, no memorial service. PLAYFAIR: On 21 March 1999, peacefully at home in London

LECTURES

National Gallery: Colin Wiggins, "Ingres and . . . (iv): Ingres and the 20th century", 1pm Victoria and Albert Museum: Caroline Rimell, "Decorative Ironwork for Houses", 2pm. National Portrait Gallery: Jonathan Stephenson, "Artists' Technique Series: the mystery of Mr Toms", 1.10pm.

baritone, 66; Sir Roger Bannister, neurologist and former Master of Pembroke College, Oxford, 70; Mr Wasim Bari, former Pak-Bass, former Headmaster, City of London School, 65; Mr Alan Bleasdale, playwright, 53; Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown MP, 46; Mr Barry Cryer, writer and comedian, 64; Mr Glyn Davies, former High Commissioner to Namibia, 57: Professor Patrick Dowling. Vice Chancellor, Surrey University, 60; Mrs Rosalind Gilmore, former Chairman, **Building Societies Commis**sion, and Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies, 62: Mr Peter Godfrey, former senior partner, Ernst and smiths' College, London, 61; Sir Geoffrey Leigh, company chairman, 66; Sir David McNee, former Commission-

Mr Mike Atherton, cricketer, 31; Mr Norman Bailey, istan cricketer, 51; Mr Bryan Whinney, 75; Professor Kenneth Gregory, Warden, Golder, the Metropolitan Police, 74; Mr Michael Manser, architect, 70; Mr Andrew

Miller MP, 50; Lord Morris BIRTHDAYS of Manchester, former MP, 71; Mr Michael Nyman, er, 44; Sir Ian Todd, consultdiplomat, 88. elist and playwright, 1881;

composer, 55; Professor Timothy Pedley, G.I. Taylor Professor of Fluid Mechanics, Cambridge University, 57; Sir Desmond Pitcher, chairman, United Utilities, 64; Mr John Rowe QC, a Recorder of the Crown Court, 63; Miss Cindy Shelley, actress, 39; Mr Oliver Sherwood, racehorse train-

ing surgeon, 78; Sir Edward Warner, former diplomat, 88: Sir Denis Wright, former ANNIVERSARIES Births: Margaret of Anjou. wife of King Henry VI, 1430; Roger Martin du Gard, nov-

Deaths: Pedro the Cruel, King of Castile and Leon. killed 1369; Stendhal (Marie-Henri Beyle), novelist, 1842;

Juan Gris, Cubist painter,

Le Sueur), actress, 1904;

Donald Malcolm Campbell,

speed record holder, 1921.

1887: Joan Crawford (Lucille

Raoul Dufy, painter and designer, 1953; Sir Leslie Patrick Abercrombie, town planner and architect, 1957; Peter Lorre (Laszlo Löwenstein), actor, 1964; Field Marshal Sir Claude John Auchinleck, 1981; Richard, Baron Beeching, reorganiser of British Rail, 1985.

Catherine of Aragon to King Henry VIII was declared valid by the Pope, although in 1533 he had "married" Anne Boleyn, 1534; the Stamp Act, intended for taxing colonists in America, was passed by Parliament, 1765; Belgium was united with Holland, 1815; the first trams in London began operating in Bayswater, 1861; the Woolwich steam ferry was inaugurated in London, 1889; Adolf Hitler became dictator of Germany, 1933; Bangladesh, formerly East Pakistan, proclaimed her independence, 1971.

Today is the Feast Day of St Benedict the Hermit, St Ethelwald the Hermit, St. Joseph Oriol, St Turibius of Lima and St Victorian.

ROYAL **ENGAGEMENTS** The Queen Mother attends Queen

Mary's Clothing Guild Annual General Meeting at St James's Palace. The Prince of Wales opens the exhibition "The Art of the Sikh Kingdoms" at the Victoria and Albert Museum, Long.

the Victoria and Albert Museum, Lon-don SW1; and, as Patron, the British Wheelchair Sports Foundation, attends the launch of the Sporting Chance Appeal at Lancaster House, London SW1. Prince Edward attends a various area of Popular by the On this day: the marriage of a performance of *Droculo* by the Northern Ballet Theatre, at Sadler's Normern Bana: Incatre, at Samer Wells Theatre, London EC1. The Princeas Boyal opens the British Association of Clothing Machinery Manufacturers' Clotech '99 Exhibition at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham; opens the Cramfield Birmingham; opens the Cranfield Innovation Centre, Cranfield, Bed-Innovation Centre, Cranfield, Bedfordshire; and, as Patron, International Health Enchange, attends their
Annual General Meeting at the Chancellor's Hall, Senate House, London
WC1. The Duke of Gloucester visits
the Caya Park Partnership, Wrexbam, Clwyd, and opens the Wrexham
Foyer, a youth accommodation and
training centre. The Duchess of
Gloucester, Patron, the Royal London Society for the Blind, accompanies children from Dorton House
School to visit adapted educational School to visit adented education activities for the visually impaired at the British Museum, London WC1. The Duke of Kent, Colonel-in-Chief, sks the First Battalion Devon and orset Regiment on exercise on Dorset Regiment on every Salisbury Plain, Wilishire.

> CHANGING OF THE GUARD The Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Guards, 11am.

Post Gazette announcements to the Gazette Editor, The Independent, telephone 0171-293 2012 (24-hour answering machine 0171-293 2011) or fax to 0171-293 2010. Please give a daytime telephone number.

IF THERE are few greater

before the OED's first ex-

Words CHRISTOPHER

Anglo-Saxon primers, 1887). Jessica Mitford did not care for it ("the reader who is fastidious about usage will ample (one of Sweet's have to supply his own sics") and Ernest Bax's "She didn't have to sic those

M

The Revengers' Comedy

Hell hath no fury like an author defending her spouse. But the best place for literary revenge is in fiction. By David Lister

ladies of letters go to use the postman as an intermediary. When you live by the pen, you aim to destroy with the pen.

Students of literature need little introduction to the dramatis personae: Victoria Glendinning, prolific piographer, most notably of Swift, Trollope and Vita Sackville-West, and Shirley Conran, author of sex and shopping novel Lace, but more pertinently a name associated everywhere but the Glendinning household with the word Superwoman, the title of her bestselling lifestyle guide for women juggling housework, careers, children and

Which brings us to the third party: Kevin O'Sullivan, currently married to Ms Glendinning and former husband of Ms Conran. But, alas, being married to Superwoman does not necessarily turn you into Superman. In a recent interview Conran explained why she had failed to mention their marriage in her Who's Who entry. It was, she said because he was a "layabout," and their marriage "a big mistake".

Reading this shir upon her man put Glendinning in a fury. She narrowed her eyes and reached for her pen. Students of 18th century literature could justifiably become excited. Here was the woman who knows more about Britain's greatest satirist Jonathan Swift than anyone alive. What withering metaphor would she use to humiliate her erstwhile rival?

Glendinning could have summoned all the political barbs, the satirical sweep of Swift, flavoured with the poise and style of Sackville-West. Instead, she told Conran that she was guilty of libel and blurted: "If you do it again there will be hell to pay from me, so look out."

Fans of Glendinning's biographies will find this riposte decidedly disappointing. If there is satire it is brilliantly disguised. Perhaps its subtext is a lesson to all biographers that intense study of your subject does not necessarily endow you with genius. But Glendinning defends her style: "It was like being a schoolgirl writing a mischievous letter."

Glendinning went on: "This is the second time to my knowledge there may have been more - that you have libelled him. Just how flaky can

Superwoman was not impressed. She too was spurred to take up her pen, but deemed Glendinning unworthy of a letter. "I wrote back on threats," she told a newspaper "She Kevin. It said: 'By the time you is obviously more interested in my read this I will be in Moscow. My ex-husband than I am and I wish her good luck with him. She'll need it." wedding ring is in the waste-paper basket where it belongs. Kevin

A belated shift towards irony in those last few words, but slightly spoilt by Conran referring to Glendinning with some relish in her interview as "the Hon Victoria G". This fails as a quip because it is precisely what, Glendinning, the daughter of Lord Seebohm, is.



As for Kevin O'Sullivan, the mysterious character on whom the exchange of letters revolves, there is

- as in all well drawn characters in literature - room for disagreement on his motivation and growth. Conran claims the marriage left her in a "financial mess". She justifies her use of language with some linguistic precision: "As soon as we got back from boneymoon he chucked in his job. During the next year he only applied for one other job, hence the use

of the word 'layabout'." The couple married in 1972 and were divorced a couple of years later. a visit to my mother in Canada to find basket where it belongs. Kevin didn't divorce me, he deserted me.

We divorced by mutual consent." By Superwoman standards this is small beer. Conran says of her first husband, Habitat founder Sir Terence Conran: "He was a **** about money, and I cannot forgive him for

and children don't like it, and sometimes the painful things should just be forgotten, but the pain stays and some of it can just burst out." She adds in the interests of literary complexity that her eight years with him were among the happiest and most satisfying of her life.

In the case of Mr O'Sullivan, Conran is far more precise in her use of language and the contemporary resonances of the words she uses. Take, for example, Mr O'Sullivan's job title. He is said to be a "consultant engineer". Conran, a woman immersed in both the arts and busi-Conran recalls: "I came back from ness, is suspicious of the word "connot going to be intimidated by her a note on the mantelpiece from language must break through such opaque and confusing terminology, she describes him as a "salesman".

Of course Shirley Conran is indulging in a popular literary pastime: revenge is increasingly the refuge of a writer scorned. Of course, the most effective way to avenge oneself on a husband, be he a layabout or just a sub-superman, is to denigrate him under cover of fiction.

Small World, writers, hold back from consummating their relationship until they have both sworn never to use each other in a future book. When you marry a writer your reputation

serves as dowry. Fay Weldon split up with Ron, her husband of 30 years, when a New Age therapist persuaded him that

'It's great to see two middle-aged ladies going at it. The life force is still there

the pair were incompatible on astrological grounds. He dropped dead the day after the divorce but lived again none too flatteringly in Wel-

don's novel Affliction.

much ac-I Married A Communist, which features a neurotic ac-

tress. It could have been worse, Bloom revealed in her own unsparing memoirs that while they were married Roth showed her a typescript of a novel in which a writer called Philip cheated continually on a boring, whinging wife called Claire. She insisted he change the names, which however did not alter the underlying unpleasantness.

Amanda Craig's novel about literary London, A Vicious Circle, provided such a nostle portrait of her former boyfriend David Sexton (now literary editor of the Evening Standard) that the original publisher backed out of the deal after Sexton threatened legal action.

Few pieces of revenge literature have been so devastating, nor had such an A-list cast, as Heartburn by Nora Ephron, in which she wrote a thinly-disguised account of the affair between her ex-husband, Watermoney, and I cannot forgive him for It is no accident that two char-hurting our sons. Divorce is painful acters in the David Lodge novel riage to actress Claire Bloom, wrote gate journalist Carl Bernstein, and hurting our sons. Divorce is painful acters in the David Lodge novel riage to actress Claire Bloom, wrote

THE CITY farm, like the sports

personality, is probably the

ultimate oxymoron. These

imals, all sorts of animals, exist

to give us deprived inner-city

dwellers some of the benefits of

the countryside, to make up for

all that our environment lacks

(you know, mud and more mud

and absolutely nothing to do).

They are so obviously a Good

Thing, so why bother to nominate them as one of the plea-

sures of living in a metropolis?

about a city farm, is that it is not

in the country. They are access-

ible by bus or foot, unlike rural

farms where there's no public

transport, no way of walking

safely along winding lanes, and

footpaths are either blocked off.

or have snorting bulls wander-

ing across them. On a city farm

there are no hazardous aging

machinery or barrels of poison.

there are no mangy dogs

cruelly tied up, no expanses of

ankle deep liquid manure, no

need to put on speciality rubber

footwear. You can walk straight

out of our city farms on to the

comfort of pavements without

Above all they have a diver-

sity of livestock to look at. Don't

bother heading for open

country to show children the

changing shoes.

They are reasonably clean,

For a start, one great thing

Peter Jay was British ambassador in Washington. She depicts the Jay figure as "an hysteric" with "a neck as long as an arm and a nose as long

Conran: described her ex-husband as a 'layabout'

Other exes finding themselves in print have protested through interviews and articles, rather than labour over a fully fledged novel. Among them are the former partners of Ian McEwan (accused of "stealing" Penny Allen's experiences in his fiction), Paul Theroux (who agreed to rewrite the sections of My Other Life to disguise his marriage) and Hanif Kureishi (said by Tracey Scoffield to have "maliciousiv cancatured her as the boring and unattractive spurned

wife in his novel Intimacy). Julie Burchill, who has kept almost no detail of her own life from her audience, said yesterday: "I always read revenge literature. It's a scream. And I think the Conran/ Glendinning row is a scream. It's great to see two middle-aged ladies going at it. It shows the life force is

Her latest novel Married Aline is, evenings. I work during the desays, not autobiographical. "I every inch a Superwoman.

was never cheated on in my marriage. I was always the guilty party." She is awaiting without undue trepidation the new book by her first hus-

Kayte Brimacombe

contain references to her. "He can do what he likes. He has written about me before. This book will sink without trace like the others." Mr O'Sullivan, meanwhile, is leaving it to the women in his life to fight it out between themselves, confin-

and, Tony Parsons, which is said to

ing himself to saying: "One of the reasons I divorced Shirley was to stop having to deal with her." Neither protagonist in this newest outbreak of swingeing liter-

words yesterday. But perhaps the answerphones at both their homes say enough.

Ms Glendinning's had a mes-

sage from her husband saying that neither Kevin nor Victoria was available. Very much the couple, very together as all their friends attest.

Ms Conran delivers her own assertive message: "I answer the evenings. I work during the day." Still

We just don't like each other

The pressures of living together are starting to tell. By Cayte Williams

THIS STUDENT

LIFE

SPRING TERM.

WEEK 11 AT THE

MANCHESTER

STUDENT HOUSE

THE STUDENTS have been living together for over six months now, and that old maxim that you don't really know anyone until you share a home with them is proving true. Arguments over who sorts out the phone bill and who does the washing up carry on as normal and it has led to personality clashes.

Ian is getting fed up with Rosie. "She's so messy, we have to clean up after her all the time. In fact, we live with really dirty girls. They never take the bins out." But is Ian one of those boys who expects girls to do all the cleaning? "Not at all," he protests. "Rosie's the only one not to have done any tidying up. Everybody

"I don't hate her." he continues, "I just don't like her very much. She's narrow-minded and opinionated."

On a happier note, David reckons that he and Robbie are closer than ever. They were good mates before they moved into this house. but now they're joined at

the hip. "Living here has made me realise how similar we are," he says. We have the same humour and spend hours talking crap to each other. "We're from similar backgrounds," adds David.

"and come from an ethnic minority living in Britain.' David came to England from Hong Kong when he was eight and went to school in Sunderland.

"I would get picked on and it affected my selfconfidence," he says.
"School kids would do Bruce Lee impressions. make jokes about Chinese takeaways, or take the piss out of the Chinese accent. Even grown men called you names when you walked

studying

ALISTAIR

studying





ROBBIE

studying

studying



down the street. I knew

different because I would

be mixing with students

comments I've had have

David had a row with

programme. He says: "I

complained that all the

Leona and Tasha the other

questions on Who Wants To

Be A Millionaire? were culturally biased, in that if

British you couldn't get the

you weren't white and

answers. But I was just

trying to wind them up."

who have less insecurities

Manchester would be

for a start. The few

been from locals."

day about a TV

was studying



Tasha, whose father is from Sri Lanka, is glad she's living in England. LEONA

when I've been abroad I've got loads of hassle," she says. "I went to eastern Germany five years ago with a group of school I got such a shock. We got so much racial abuse. We weren't allowed into clubs or restaurants because of my colour. They've got problems there with the neo-Nazis and you could see there was a real ghetto for ethnic minorities.

across racism here but

Tasha's background is Sri Lankan but she went to a "very English" boarding school, Christ's Hospital in Essex. She passed the entrance exam and joined her brother there because her father knew it had a good exam pass rate. "My dad came over to this country to be a part of this country," she says.

So did she feel any cultural difference when she arrived at a "very English" school? "My daddy is Christian," she says, "and religion has a lot to do with upbringing, so no, I didn't at all.

THE JOYS OF MODERN LIFE

38. CITY FARMS BY CAROLINE STACEY



in evidence or just one species as far as the eye can see.

Take East Anglia, for example, where monoculture means that fields of sugarbeet or turnips stretch to infinity. Elsewhere there may be chickens. hundreds and thousands of them, but they're hidden from view in battery hen houses. If any are visible it'll be nothing but sheep, sheep, or row upon row of cows, and that's the lucky ones allowed to live outside. Just as there's nothing but white folk wherever you look, and a homogenised breed of Conservative voter

My parents live in a part of the country given over to the cultivation of mange touts and garlic. We naively took our twoexpect from picture books. get straight back in the car, cut sandwiches in an outbuilding.

Either there will be no animals across a terrifying dual carriageway and get out on the side of a windswept hill to look at some sheep on the other side of barbed wire. We'd have been better off up the road from home in London where he can see pigs, sheep, chickens, ducks, turkeys and geese wandering around the cobbled farmyard, a cow and her calf. rabbits and as great a variety of people visiting them. For

biodiversity, just head for town. The rustics can pity us our urban existence all they like. Call me a cow of the snotty metropolitan variety, but Hackney city farm provides our family with far more pleasure and interest than their benighted countryside. And it's the only one I know with an Italian kind of farmyard scenes they year-old down there and had to café serving toasted focaccia

From Roald Da

From

one in the statements or at his often from our fortwood Alabation beasing the word Bloom taken from The Greek Ar leger David Harsett s poetr Finite ingresended right for hi Delectric da meld Soth these security to destruced of

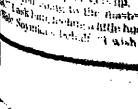
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HE TUFSIDAY REVIEW

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journal (2013年)。1991年出版日本

The illustrator takes the stage

From Roald Dahl's books to The Hunchback of Notre Dame, the work of Quentin Blake mixes painting and drama. By Ann Treneman

uentin Blake is Britain's bestloved and best-known illustrator. Those who have seen his work - and that must include every parent in the country - are jealous when I mention that I am to interview him. "But I'd love to meet him," they say. I am to report back. I drop his name to my eight-year-old and her eyes grow large at the thought that I will meet the man who drew The BFG. For once, she's genuinely impressed.

So here is my report. Quentin Blake is surprisingly quiet, but with a sense of humour that sneaks up on you. He is shortish, with lively eyes and is thoughtful, eccentric, precise. I'm not sure where he stores his ego in his airy studio overlooking a square in London's Earl's Court, but I couldn't find it anywhere. "Do you really think that I'm the most famous illustrator in Britain?" he asks when I mention this. He continues: "Well, I don't know. People say things like that but it's a kind of fact that is hard to take in. You know it's always a surprise when you see someone reading

If that is the case, he must live a life of perpetual surprise.

your book,"

What a lot of raised eyebrows that would be to draw. He has illustrated some 200 books, including all of Roald Dahl's, as well as his own, such as Mr Magnolia. He illustrates the odd book for grown-ups, too, and has just finished The Hunchback of Notre Dame for the Folio Society.

The Word, the London Festival of Literature, has begun this week and for this he has drawn the Great Word Mop, a sort of ink-stained and splodged A to Z. The festival has chosen 33 novels to symbolise 33 parts of London and Blake has done a drawing for each one. The books sit in a crate at the side of his studio. He likes to read, and so already knew most of them but a few, he admits, he got through "very fast". We look at the roughs. "Editors are always saying that the roughs are always better." He says sometimes they actually use them instead of the finished ones.

It is not long before I notice that we are not alone in his studio. Propped up against the wall on his slanted desk, which is littered with jars holding hundreds of pencils and pens, is a man. Or should I say, a character. Like most of Blake's creations, he is a study in motion, though his progress must be hampered slightly by the fact he is wearing stilts. He is angular, with toobig yellow trousers and the pointi-

est nose. He looks like the quintessential Quentin Blake character, but I don't recognise him from the books. "Oh him," says Blake, "It's nobody. He's just somebody who lives in that ^{se)}drawing."

He is part of what Blake calls his "repertory company". He describes illustrating as a mixture of painting and theatre, but his heart is really with the latter. "Most people think illustration is like a version of



Blake: 'It's always a surprise when you see somebody reading one of your books'; below, his version of the Caretaker, the Naked Civil Servant and Sherlock Holmes

painting but, of course, a lot of contemporary painting hasn't got that narrative element at all. It's been purged of that." He talks about painters like Tiepolo and Tintoretto, whose works told stories and were full of drama. "What would they do now? They'd probably be in the movies, wouldn't they? You'd need that to get that sweep, those dramatic moments. Illustration now is probably a rather small version of that narrative theatre."

He rarely draws a picture without a person in it. "Yes that's true. I mean. animals count as people, don't they? Yes. I think so. Animals are people too." He

returns to his comparison with the theatre. Some people like scenery, others a bare stage with props. Quentin Blake likes the latter. His work is full of props - wonky stoves and skew-whiff pans - but

rarely does he paint the scenery. It helps create the Polaroid effect, that feeling of capturing 66 now, and has been This is a quality he admires in

ty, although they look as though they are going to be there forever, I don't know how he does that." He mentions Picasso and Degas. "I think Degas has come back having been unfashionable, rather in the way Dickens came back. People are coming to realise that you can do it like that. He was a wonderful draughts-

you get there is this kind of instant quali-

man, absolutely wonderful. You just love the way he does the line. You can feel it. Have you seen the ones of the brothels? That is a kind of illustration style he had. He did his

paintings, but then he did these little pictures. They are more little instants, little moments. They are improvised."

Quentin Blake is drawing ever since he can remember. He grew up in south London. His painters, too. "I like Goya very much, because one of the things father was a civil servant, his

mother a housewife. At 14, he started sending cartoons to Punch. He cringes to think of it now. "They really were lacking in taste." This went on for two years. How many? "I seem to remember it was about 70," he says. "Then I sent them a plaintive note asking to come and see them." He went up to the Punch offices which,

he says, in those days were rather grand, like a London club or something. He was put in waiting-room, next to a large woman, and given a copy of The New Yorker, which he thoroughly enjoyed. Then he sat, and sat, and sat, "After quite a long time, the secretary appeared and

> there. They had thought I was the woman's nephew. And by then it was too late to see the art director! But I did go back. And then he bought two of my drawings. They weren't that big. Tiny, really."

At Cambridge, he studied English but, of that, though that is what he wrote, and before becoming a teacher, he decided to give his drawing a go. He went to Chelsea Art School part-time. It was £7 a term. He did life-drawing. "I was in a group called the Odds and Sods, not officially, but that is what we were. A collection of grey-haired ladies, immigrants and, well, me." It sounds like a Quentin Blake drawing to me. "Then I used to go home and draw from memory and imagination. Which I've been doing ever since, actu-

He and Roald Dahl were teamed up because they Quentin Blake likes illustrating because of the challenge of drawing as others write, but Dahl was intimidating. To begin with, I can remember thinking that he is just so famous. A power. I thought he's going to change things." In fact, sometimes it was the opposite. The original BFG wore an apron and

boots. Dahl didn't like the look

gave him a waistcoat instead. Then there were the fect, "One day, a rather shapeless brown-paper parcel arrived, and in it was the big sandal," says Blake. "It was one of Dahl's. It was Norwegian. And he said: 'What about this?'." Now that is a footnote.

Illustrators never have to retire, and Quentin Blake doesn't sec why he should. If he has a hobby, it is France, and he can draw there as well. He says that characters are something that happen when you draw. He sometimes contorts in sym-

pathy as he is creating them, and makes faces to match theirs. So what's next? He has an idea for a new book, but after that isn't sure. "I always think that I won't have any more ideas," he says. But, I say, you've had millions of ideas. "I know, but I can't think that I am going to have any more. You do one and then you really cannot believe that you are going to have another."

Further information on The Word literary festival: 0171-971 0408 and at www.theword.org.uk

From melodrama to poetry, melancholy to ecstasy

hardly his style, Harrison Birtwistle ing melodrama that overcame the has a talent for choosing the words, problems inherent in the genre by whether taken from The Greek An- a skilful juxtaposition of spoken and thology or David Harsent's poetry, sung material, performed by rethat prove impeccably right for his citer Julia Watson and soprano uniquely created world.

Both these sources featured in the first concert of the Nash Ensemble's 1999 20th-century music sepho, and gave the world première of proach to the setting of text, renewed counts of his Duets for Storab and

THOUGH BELLES-LETTRES are The Woman and the Hare, a strik-

Claron McFadden. The striking feature was the identity of both pieces shared. The in the more recent work to a novel

CLASSICAL NASH ENSEMBLE

PURCELL ROOM SOUTH BANK CENTRE LONDON

textural juxtapositions and discon- stage evolution. Birtwistle's ries two weeks ago. The ensemble timuities of the Cantata were not just arrangements of Machaut and Ockplayed Birtwistle's classic 1969 Can-tata, which sets fragments by Sap-avant-garderie, but an original ap-there were sharply focused ac-

Stravinsky's Soldier's Tale suite. The evening's other premiere was of Colin Matthew's arrangement of Debussy's Trois poèmes de Stephane Mallarmé, tailored in ensemble to match the Trois poèmes by Ravel, a Nash Ensemble standard. Perfectly tailored to their role, they look set to become a significant addition to the ensemble's

dazzling repertoire. Last Thursday came the turn of younger composers to hear their the radiance of Tagore's love poems. work played by this talented group; sung in the poet's own translation.

personal sound from its heterodox line-up. David Matthew's The Sleeping Lord lent orchestral weight to its chamber textures, with soprano Valdine Anderson building from a quiet opening to forceful statement. In Jonathan Harvey's Song Offerings, she rose to ecstatic heights, with a backing for string quintet whose exultant scoring matched

and of special interest was the way

If Harvey knows how to draw finein which each was able to conjure a

ly blended sounds from the ensemble, Julian Anderson can burnish its ravishing highlights. To an earlier Nash commission, his Threards Poetru added a reflective, brooding pasde-deux that blossomed into a lively clarinet solo. Texture and invention throughout were witty and scintillating. This composer could not be boring even if he tried.

Paul Watkins gave the première of his brother Huw's Sonata for Cello and Eight Instruments, and he

clearly relished both its energy and quieter moments. Watkins is gifted with a sense of formal hierarchy: from clear beginnings flow signifi-cant middles and ends. The close of each movement in his three-movement scheme was a genuine conclusion, not just a pause in otherwise continuous music. His later pieces will doubtless display a more flexible range of chord and gesture. But here he showed himself a likely composer for the new millennium.

NICHOLAS WILLIAMS

The poet meets the chattering class

I'M HALF-SKIPPING, half-running through the streets of Covent Garden wards the Poetry Cafe. It's 2.25pm. sust five minutes to go before the three-hour-long Poetry Masterclass with Wole Soyinka, the Nobel Prizewinning poet and dramatist from Nigerial I slow to a fast walk as I too ridiculous.

"Poetry masterclass?" asks the woman holding the door and looking, a little nervily, up and down the street. I nod and step inside.

"Drink?" says the woman at the bar, hurrying towards me. Could there be time?

She brings me a cappuccino. Do I look like that sort of a person? I glance Suddenly, the girl on the door makes around at the other tables as I burn an announcement: he's on his way. my lips. There are maybe 10 of us in He's in a taxi now! here. The mature man next to me is could do something cultural," he says. You can walk to three parks

from here." Suddenly, he gets up. "Aren't you going to the masterclass?" I ask him, feeling a little hurt on Wole Soyinka's behalf. "I wish I

POETRY WOLE SOYINKA

POETRY CAFE COVENT GARDEN, LONDON

could," he says, walking away. I glance approach the door, not wishing to look at my watch - 2.40pm. Then down at the inscription beneath the glass on the café table: "Today there is a wide measure of agreement - that the stream of knowledge is heading towards a non-mechanical reality; the universe begins to look more like a great thought than a great

A few more people drift in, singly.

Everyone gets up and goes downtalking to his young girliriend. "Or we stairs - we're about 12 now - where chairs get arranged in a rough circle. I plump for a big old grey armchair that I haven't seen since I last visited my Uncle Ronald in 1974.

The Chinese man next to me is on

him to talk. He tells me his name, twice. Then, at my request, he writes it down: Liu Hongbin. I tell him mine.

We talk about poetry masterclasses. Has he been to one? Does he know what goes on? No. Nor do L And how much longer before things get going,

Suddenly, a black writer in a gorgeous ochre turban drops a leaflet into my lap. "Welcome to the first Writers' Hotspot newsletter!" the front page reads.

"Are you a published poet?" I ask Liu Hongbin, looking up. "Blake Morrison published my first poems in English, in The Independent on Sunday, nine years ago."

It's just coming up to 3 o'clock. Everyone's making friends. Suddenly, there's a bit of a kerfuffle on the stairs. "He's here!" shouts the Poetry Café publicist, almost

punching the air. "I'm so so sorry about the delay." says Wole Soyinka, with winning gravity. He has a slim folder of poems in one hand, a glass of white wine in mouth, who tells Mr Soyinka that he's an upright chair. I have to look up to the other. His hair forms a kind of ring here to get an answer about some



of white candyfloss around his face. His white beard points forward tuftily. bright-eyed, eager, pugnacious editor

We all introduce ourselves: the of African writing; the rather wan and flyblown woman who says: "I mess around really. I'm a dentist"; and the critic from Korea with the mac over his knee, he of the severe, downturned

invitation to a writers' congress in Seoul. Mr Soyinka seems none-toopleased by that.

Then Mr Soyinka tells us the really big news. "I must say, right from the start, that I am here under false pretences. I was not aware until last night - I arrived at eight o'clock, straight from Nigeria - that this masterclass was to take place. I thought I had refused to do it. I feel more at ease in theatre workshops. I don't much like talking about my work. I have made no preparations... Still, things shouldn't be too bad. We can talk more informally perhaps..."

I look at Liu Hongbin. He smiles back at me inscrutably - as I would expect him to do.

"What I should like to do." continues Wole Soyinka, "is to put myself into the position of attending a poetry masterclass such as this one. What would be the thing that I needed

most?" He takes a long, appealing-looking drink from the glass.

MICHAEL GLOVER

The Golden Greatd -STAMFORD RAFFLES and the East Adventures, travels and collecting in Southeast Asia Standard & Chartened Until 18 April 99 Closed 2 April 99 Mon-Sat 10-4.50 Sun 12-5.50 Admission £4 concessions L_2 Advance booking 0870 840 1111 BRITISH MUSEUM Great Revell Street London WCI ory: peg 878;

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Why join the queues? Try two small shows at the National Gallery: Gentileschi and Van Der Weyden. By Tom Lubbock

he blockbuster problem. It's not just the crowds. It's the fact that the crowds can only be pulled by offering many more pictures than any viewer could possibly look at within the space of single visit, even if the exhibition was entirely deserted. If you think about it, the crowds actually provide a convenient diversion from this fact. They mask one impossibility (excess of art) with another (excess of viewers). The crush of people, making much of the show invisible, disguises the fact that it would be unviewable anyway. Why call it a problem? It works out very well.

And the smaller, fully viewable show, the

one with say 10 or 20 pictures? It's pretty much the ideal thing, I would have thought. Ideal, I mean, for the general viewer. Because the sharpest irony of blockbusters is that their real beneficiaries aren't the public crowds at all, but rather the scholars, the art-historians – the people who gen-uinely need to see all those Monets or Bonnards altogether, and who will go keep returning, out of hours, to do so.

On the other hand, to say "here's a show where you can see, and really see, six extremely good paintings", however good advice, is never going to get feet moving in large numbers. Just as well, I suppose. But if six extremely good paintings is your idea of fun, try the small Orazio Gentileschi exhibition at the National Gallery.

Orazio (that's to say, Horace) Gentileschi. It's not a household name. Italian painter, 1563-1639. He was Artemisia's father, and she's now the more famous, being widely rated as the top woman European painter of all time. Orazio was the friend and close follower of Caravaggio (he lent Caravaggio a set of wings used for doing angels and cupids). Late in life, he left Italy to spend his sixties and seventies in England, working for the court of Charles I. The dozen pictures here, assembled from Dublin, Birmingham, Hampton Court, Bilbao and Madrid, are partly from those years. He is a terrifically interesting artist.

praise – an optimistic or pretentious way of saying that he was simply a clumsy painter. I overheard a couple of other visitors voicing just that view. They were look-ing at Gentileschi's Finding of Moses, a crowded group scene, and saying it was terribly stiff and artificial, and Veronese does this sort of thing much better. And with these Moses pictures (there are two versions here), I kind of agree. The composi-tions do rather stumble over themselves.

But generally I don't agree. The clum-siness is the point – the moral point. These pictures tell Bible stories, and the idea is

Orazio Gentileschi is terrifically interesting a great painter of physical awkwardness

to give the stories a kind of realism. It's not a realism like Caravaggio's, where saints are represented as horny-handed sons and daughters of toil. Gentileschi's people are, relatively, ladies and gents. His realism is not to do with social class so much as with the nature of events. The way he arranges bodies in a picture is a way of insisting that great moments of sacred history were not enacted with decisive gestures in elegant and well-blocked tableaux. They happened awkwardly. His awkwardness is judged.

Look at the first scene in the show, David Slaying Goliath (1605-8). The fallen giant and the little man wielding the giant's huge sword are crammed inside the picture frame as if inside a box. See how the tip of the blade and the tip of David's pinky precisely touch the picture's edge, and the giant's raised hand is just short of it, and his foot just overlaps - very difficult, one feels, to swing that unwieldy weapon in this confined space. There's bodily confusion, too. There's a non-specific bit of flesh that's probably the giant's elbow, but might well be his knee. His other knee seems to merge into David. And there's an He's a great painter of physical awk-wardness. That may sound like dubious way that Goliath's defensive left-hand odd, discordant echo-cum-jump in the

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gesture is repeated exactly, small-scale, in David's own triumphant left-hand gesture. The general effect is to turn a heroic victory into one of those wrestling bouts where you're unsure which limbs are whose.

The next picture is another cracker, utterly bizarre. The Rest on the Flight into Egypt (c 1615-20): I suppose one should resist the temptation to call it "surreal", but the temptation is certainly strong. Alternatively, one might speculate that Gen-tileschi was making propaganda for an obscure donkey cult. It is the donkey's head that presides over this scene. The holy family lie below the picture's halfway mark. Behind them, flat across the picture, runs a stretch of crumbling plastered wall. Behind that, above them, central, enormous, the donkey's profile pokes out - quasi-framed by the broken brickwork, isolated against

the clouds. The moke is god.

What is going on? I think nobody has a clue. The show's small catalogue doesn't acknowledge how strange this image is, let alone explain it. There is a possible echo between the donkey's head poking from behind the wall, and the Virgin Mary's breast - she is suckling Jesus - peeping out (in the same direction) from her dress, but Γm not sure what the implied simile would be. All one can say is that a lop-sided sense

of significance is another aspect of Gentileschi's awkwardness. As, for instance, in Lot and his Daughters (1629). Here, a disproportionate amount of attention is given to a beautifully rendered vine plant. It commands about a third of the picture surface. You may say that this is the vine that made the wine with which the girls got Lot drunk so that they could have sex with him (in order to repeople the land after the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah). But put like that, you can see that the vine is not the obvious point of emphasis in this narrative. Perhaps it's another, purely pictorial analogy, the twining vine figuring the tenderly intertwined limbs of the sleeping Lot and daughter, with some more clever limb echoes and confusions.

Meanwhile, in Joseph and Potiphar's Wife (1630-2), what would normally be a scene of sudden action, a man escaping a woman's pounce, is converted into dream-



Gentileschi's 'David and Goliath'

like slow-motion. There's a fantastically painted spread of hanging scarlet drapery, and an oddly significant lump of pillow, and Joseph striding from the room, away from the viewer, is done with cunning spatial ambiguity, so his body seems to be at several distances. I hope this is recommendation enough. The show is free, and when I saw it, there weren't many there.

The National Gallery has another, even smaller exhibition, of pictures by that exquisite old Flemish master, Rogier van der Weyden, one of the first generation of oil painters. The focus of the show is the reuniting of the National's own Magdalene Reading with two other fragments of the altarpiece to which it originally belonged. But the real revelation for me was the amazing quality of the photo-reproduction. One the two surviving bits, on loan from

Lisbon, actually fits on to the Magdalene fragment, and to demonstrate this, the show has made actual-size photos of each. stuck them on actual-width board, and reassembled them, beside their originals. Now I don't say that photo and painting are

indistinguishable. Side by side, you can see the difference clearly enough, chiefly in relative luminosity. But the difference isn't that large. The colour is extraordinarily close. I'm not sure, with just the photo and no tipoff, how long it would have taken me to spot the truth. And this of course suggests a simple answer to the over-crowded block-

National Gallery, London WC2 (0171-747 2885); daily. free. Gentileschi to 23 May;

buster. Three or four of everything.

The man who shot **Bob Marley**

The hair. That smile. Bob Marley is one of the great icons. But Dennis Morris has captured the reggae star's essence. By Kate Mikhail

OFTEN IT'S only in retrospect that life becomes clear Look back through the eye of a camera and, suddenly, gaunt cheeks, anxious frowns and dejected body language are all there to be read. When photographer Dennis Morris lined up his pictorial biography of Bob Marley, which ran from 1973 to the musician's death in 1981, he was struck by what the images revealed. "I saw where it was all going

wrong. I suddenly realised how he was slowly deteriorating... that he was dying." Morris was only 14 years old when the two first met. He had bunked off school to hover outside London's Speakeasy club, camera in hand, to snap Marley as he arrived for a sound check. That evening, after the show, he went home, packed a bag and joined the band on tour. "My age didn't mean anything to Marley because where he was coming from in Trench Town, kids of 10 had guns." The photographer and musician felt an immediate empathy: neither had grown up with their fathers, both were lucky enough to have mentors at a young age to encourage them in their respective passions, and both were outsiders: Morris was the kid at school who hated football and who, from the age of eight, would rather go off on his own to photograph the streets of Hackney, Marley was also a loner, a child of mixed parentage growing up in Trench Town, But, as Morris stresses, this was a man who "knew he was on a mission". He was out to break down barriers and confront intolerance through his actions and through his rebel music.

Morris's first photographs of Bob taken at the Speakeasy in 1973 are grainy and dimly lit just one spot of light catches



tures. The expression on Marley's face is intense, such was his total immersion when on stage. "He could have been praying, he could have just got hit by a bullet, he could even been laughing," says Morris, describing his favourite image of this time.

"Seeing him live, he expressed himself in all those ways: in his face, his movements, his eyes, everything." Other photographs in Mor-

ris's reportage-style collection capture Marley backstage, on the tour bus, relaxing in a nightclub and at home in Hope Road, Kingston, Jamaica. They are all intimate images but they focus on the public Bob Marley. There are no shots of him and his wife Rita, who sang backing vocals as part of the I Threes, or any of his 11 children, whom he had with eight different women. One day Mariey turned to Morris and said. "Yeah, let me

show you how a man can be free." The camera clicked and Marley is frozen leaping around grinning, and shaking and pulling his dreads this way and that, all the while saying, "Bars cannot hold me, force cannot control me, l-man a rebel." And what if Bob Marley was in this gallery right now? Morris looks shocked by the idea, as if the room wouldn't be big enough to contain him.

"He wasn't a very tall man, but he was a giant of a man. He had immense presence, and the beauty was that it spread on to you. You had to really get your act together." In several of the later photographs, Marley's open-toed sandals reveal a heavily bandaged toe, poignant in hindsight as it was this football injury which refused to heal and eventually led to his death from cancer.

"I think when he died, half of Jamaica suffered," says Morris. "He fed a lot of people, he supported a lot of people emotionally, financially. He put Jamaics on the map." Marley was like a priest, recalls Morris. People would go to him with their problems and he would give them an answer, and before he went on stage he was "almost like a shaman, drawing inspiration before they walk out to face the masses and give the message. Then he'd walk on stage and the place would light up." But the 1976 attempt on his life in the lead-up to the Jamaican elections, together with his illness, visibly affected him, and Morris's photographs of this time show him reflective and drawn-looking. But at the same time he was pleased that he had achieved his aim: he had given Rastas respectability and spread his message of freedom and tolerance.

"The other day I went to Dalston to get my hair cut," says Morris, "and my hairdresser said: I know Bob Marley. I remember him well, I remember in Jamaica we used to see him playing on the street with his guitar and we used to laugh and say "Look at the old fool. The fool thinks he going to be a star". Only Bob Marley knew Bob Marley was going to

Bob Marley, A Rebel Life', presented by Epson and Proud Galleries, 5 Buckingham Street, London WC2 (0171-839 4942), to 29 April The accompanying book Bob Marley, A Rebel Life is published by Plexus, £14.99

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THE THISDAY RIVIEW The independent of March 19

HEAITH

The smell good factor We shouldn't

Its powers and healing properties have been tried and tested; the French and Germans swear by it. But in Britain, aromatherapy is still not taken seriously. By Roger Dobson

hen the first astronauts travelled into space, state-of-theart technology was crammed into almost every square inch of their craft. There were monitors for their hearts, gauges for blood pressure, tests for bone density, and meters for measuring capacity. There were also games designed to prevent boredom, exercises and tasks to relieve stress, and pictures, music and sounds from home to combat pression

But it soon became clear that one thing had been overlooked. There was nothing pleasant for the crews to smell in the sterile, hi-tech spacecraft. So acute did the problem become that early astronauts took to keeping their lemon- and filacscented hand-wipes for sniffing during leisure times.

As a result, astronauts on later missions were provided with sensory packs giving them a choice of wellmown fragrances, as well as a few avourite smells from back home.

The power of the sense of smell has been known for thousands of years, but only now is evidence emerging that aromas, particularly those extracted from plants, are not only a psychological pick-me-up, out can ease some physiological Problems, too.

Conditions as diverse as epilepsy and burn injuries, herpes and respiratory infections have now been successfully treated using clinical forms of aromatherapy.

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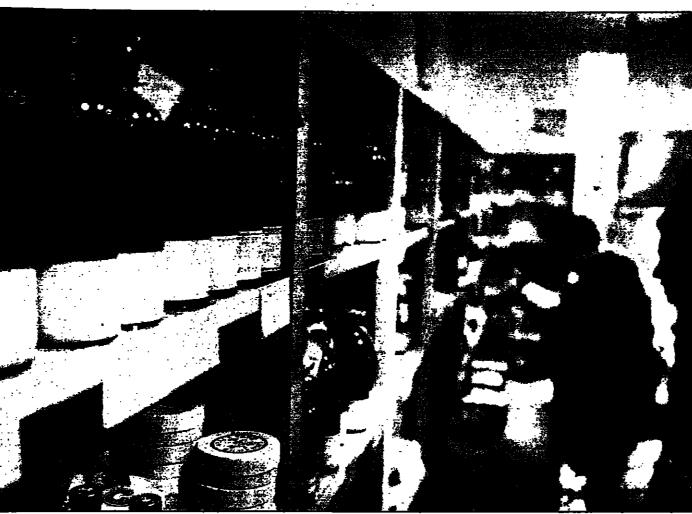
In Britain, until now, it has been traditionally regarded as a kind of alternative massage therapy, good for toning the skin perhaps, but no use at all in treating illness and disease. In France and Germany. however, it's Europe's fastestgrowing alternative therapy, and has evolved as part of medicine.

French doctor Rene-Maurice Gattefosse is now credited with being the father of modern aromatherapy, largely as a result of his seminal, three-volume work on the subject, which was published almost

"His theories put aromatherapy scientific thought and experimen- acne, or they may work through the tation. He introduced the word aro-pleasant smell having an effect on matherapy and created the discipline of therapeutic application of essential oils," says Dr Kurt Schnaubelt, author of Medical Aromatherapy.

Clinical aromatherapy uses essential oils extracted from herbs, flowers, trees and fruits. These are the oils that give the aroma to the plant, but they also contain hundreds of complex chemical compounds, including aldehydes, terpenes, alcohols, esters and ketones, many of which are known to have a healing affect on the body. Whether massaged into the skin, consumed internally, or simply inhaled, the theory of aromatherapy is that these chemicals interact with the body.

Because the molecules of essential oils are so minute, they penetrate human skin ands enter the



Choose your aroma: many essential oils contain chemical compounds which have a curative effect on the body

bloodstream and organs. Scientists have found that the same oils gather in the same parts of the body time and time again," says aromatherapist, Penny Rich.

As proof of the power of plants, aromatherapists are quick to point out that hinchemists have been consistently raiding nature to find therapeutic compounds, from aspirin to St John's wort for depression.

Just how the oils work remains unclear. In some cases, the chemicals in them may act at a local level, sis of modern as will lavenger on i

the brain and affecting the working oils has been known for some time of the immune system.

"Essential oils stimulate the sense of smell, which in turn affects the areas of the brain known as the limbic system. The link between emotions, fear, love, excitement, anger, and the release of body chemicals is well-established Aromatherapy, through its impact on the limbic system, can stimulate the release of neurochemicals, as well as hormones, in the body," says Barbara Rowlands, author of mentary Medicine.

- the Egyptians were using myrth and cedarwood for embalming 4,500 years ago - it's only since the arrival of biochemistry that the individual qualities and importance of chemicals founds in plants has been truly realised

At a psychological level, it's now known that pleasant aromas can ease pain and help with insomnia and depression, and aromatherapy is increasingly being used by nurses working with patients suffering from

Some oils, including Spanish Although the power of essential oregano and rosemary, have been

used to treat bacterial infections, while a trial involving oil from the tea tree showed it to be effective against MRSA, which is a potentially lethal bug that is most commonly picked up in hospitals. A study in California has found

that thyme oil was useful in treating migraine, and in France, patients with cardiac disease who were given essential oils reduced the incidence of further attacks. In a hospital-based project in Birmingham, massage and aromatherapy oils have been showed that one third of patients were seizure-free after a year. Trials have also shown that peppermint is useful in the treatment of shingles, while lavender oil helps deal with cold sores.

Despite these trials and the apparent successes of many essential oils, there is still a reluctance in Britain to accept aromatherapy as a medical treatment.

"There are striking differences between the French and British approaches. In France, aromatherapy was first propagated by medical doctors which led to its integration into conventional medicine," says Dr

"The non-academic character of aromatherapy in Britain is probably the main reason why it is confronted with a certain antagonism from the conventional medical establishment," Dr Schnaubelt concludes.

be gambling with the NHS

ROLL UP roll up - buy a lottery ticket and save a life. It could after all, be you with a lump in your breast or a shadow on your lung – and maybe, just maybe, the time will come when you need a body scan and a course of radiotherapy.

The passing of a watershed is sometimes greeted with fanfares and headlines, and at other times goes almost unnoticed. Last week's Government announcement of an extra £150m funding for cancer services from the National Lottery could be just such a watershed. But it may be years before we know.

Frank Dobson, the health secretary, was enthusiastic. The money, to be paid over three years, would be "the biggest ever bonus the country has given to cancer services", he said. "It will help us deliver modern and dependable cancer services for the 21st century, saving thousands of lives with better prevention, detection and treatment,"

So the product of gambling. itself a known health hazard, is to be used in an act of charity to the NHS to buy scanners, x-ray machines and "vital new cancer-killing treatments". It will come from the "New Opportunities fund", a sixth good cause Labour added to the lottery's original five shortly after it came to power.

Who could complain about that? As recent figures have shown, Britain lags behind most of Europe on cancer treatments and many hospital departments are in urgent need of new equipment. Medical organisations found themselves backed into a corner. Where was the mileage. in PR terms, in protesting about extra cash for cancer?

Clearly there is a place for charity in the health arena. Hospitals have their flower days, their leagues of friends, The fear here is that the Government has crossed a boundary by ditching the principle that lottery money should never be used to subsidise state spending.

A founding principle of the

National Lottery, endorsed by Labour in opposition, was that of "additionality" - that money should go only to schemes additional to those funded by the Government. Since scanners and x-ray machines are essential to the work of cancer departments but have also been bought for hospitals by charities, the definition of what is "additional" has been

conveniently muddied. Ministers deny they are exploiting this confusion and say they are merely building on local fund-raising efforts. There regard to it.

HEALTH CHECK

JEREMY LAURANCE

is no question of state spending being eroded and they cate the £21bn promised over the next three years as evidence of their good intentions We should treat these

pledges with a healthy scepticism. The British Medical Association observed that there were advantages to using a central pot - the lottery - to build on local fund raising efforts, because it could even out inequities across the country. But it added that it was "sad" and "disappointing" that the Government was relying on lottery money to fund what should be regarded as "mainstream core services".

Hospital managers are reluctant to accept charity for core services

The NHS Confederation. representing hospital managers, sounded a similar warning. It did not wish to look a gift horse in the mouth but it was reluctant to accept charity for core services that ought to be provided by the taxpayer.

This, however, is only the beginning. When the lottery good causes: charities, the millennium, the arts, heritage and sport. Each received 20 per

The sixth good cause, the New Opportunities Fund, added in 1997 to support government-chosen projects. currently takes 13.3 per cent of the pot rising to 20 per cent next October. From 2001, however, when lottery funding of millennium projects will end. its share will rise to one third of all good cause money about £500m a year.

That will buy rather more than a few cups of tea for volunteer workers at the local hospice and it is hard to believe that Gordon Brown or his successor at the Treasury will make his dispensations without

Lavender massaged into the

stringy marks and

■ Upper Respiratory Tract Infections: Thyme rubbed onto the skin provides forceful from the liver, while lavender applied to the affected areas stimulates new tissue growth. during the acute stages

■ Earache: Two drops of

inserted gently into the ear. surrounding area may also help. ■ Stretch Marks: Flax seed and hazel nut oils can be used for existing marks, while a blend of enrol and cypress in hazel nut oil massaged into the skin during pregnancy can be used to prevent the characteristic

discolouration. **■ Conjunctivitis:** Add three to five drops of fresh lemon juice to a three ounce bottle of myrtle

water and spray into eye every ■ Insomnia: Three drops of angelica massaged into the

by Kurt Schnaubelt, published this week and available from Airlift Books, £13.99. Further reading: The Which? Guide to Complementary

AROMATHERAPY TREATMENTS Eucalyptus oil on a cotton swab

antiseptic action, while three to 10 drops of Bay oil applied to the lymph nodes fights off infection. ■ Acne: Peppermint oil capsules stimulate elimination of toxins ■ Flu: German camomile taken detoxifies metabolic wastes from

pathogenic micro-organisms.

hour.

forehead

■ Nausea: One or two drops of tarragon, rosemary and marjoram in water. From Medical Aromatherapu

Medicine', £9.99

But how did *I* get herpes?

We associate genital viruses with infidelity. It's not always that simple. By Emma Haughton

FOUR YEARS into a steady relationship, Simon suddenly developed painful and ugly sores all over his genitals. His GP was booked up for several days ahead and, since he was runnings a high fever, he went to ca-sucry. A nurse took one look, and referred him to a genitourinary clinic, saying he had a bad case of genital herpes.

"It was a bolt from the blue," says Simon. "Alison was my only sexual partner, and I was sure she'd been faithful." Indeed, when they both attended the clinic, Alison's vaginal swab

tested negative. Alison was as shocked as Simon. Although she'd had a number of sexual partners, there was no suspicion that any of them had herpes, and she was appalled to discover that she had probably unwittingly essed it on "I felt really terit, and although the clinic said · I hadn't got herpes, I knew I must have given it to him. They implied he'd picked it up from someone else, but I just knew

that wasn't true." Having lingered in the shad-

ow of Aids for over a decade, sumed the virus could only ally a mild and benign condition; a vaccine, and acyclovir and the genital herpes recently regained the limelight when UK and US studies suggested its prevalence was much higher than previously assumed. As many as one in five people could be infected with herpes simplex virus type two (HSV-II). responsible for the more virulent form of genital herpes, although up to 80 per cent may be unaware they have it. Genital herpes is also caused by the milder HSV-I; while this type usually causes cold sores around the mouth, it can infect

the genitals through oral sex. Official reports put the number of new UK cases at around 15,000 a year. "It's very likely there are many more potentially infectious cases presenting less typically," says Dr Derek Timmins, consultant in genito-urinary medicine at the Royal Liverpool Hospital, and a member of the Herpes Simplex Advisory Panel.

Herpes is a complex and mysterious disease, which transmits in ways doctors are only now beginning to understand. While it was always as- pes, while incurable, is gener-

pass on via active sores, recent research uncovered evidence of "silent shedding", where herpes transmits without the presence of blisters; using condoms just during active episodes may still leave partners at risk.

And not everyone has obvious skin lesions; some only experience occasional redness

The emotional repercussions are often far worse than the physical

or tingling in the affected area, but can still infect others through oral or penetrative sex. To complicate matters furing itself, often making it imwhom you caught it.

ther, the virus can hibernate in the body for years before showpossible to tell when or from The good news is that her-

only an unfortunate few experience recurrent and debilitating episodes, which can be as frequent as every three weeks. No one is sure what causes herpes symptoms to reappear, but triggers include stress, anxiety fatigue, menstruation and infections like colds and flu. In most cases, however, the first appearance is the worst, and for any it is the last.

However, herpes can occasionally be dangerous for young babies, causing life-threatening encephalitis or brain-swelling. For reasons as yet unclear, neonatal herpes affects more babies in the US than in the UK, where the incidence is just two

"The biggest risk is to young babies in the first 6-12 months of life whose mother is infected with herpes for the first time at or around delivery," says Timmins. "The baby can be infected and its developing immune system is unable to cope. Babies can become ill, even die, if the condition is not recognised and treated promptly."

newer antiviral drugs can shorten the duration and severity of attacks, and even suppress recurrence. But for the majority of people the emotional repercussions of the disease are far worse than the physical. With herpes classed as a sexually transmitted disease, reactions to diagnosis include depression, anxiety, guilt, shame and fear of rejection.

"Unfortunately misunderstandings about the way it's passed on can cause a lot of tension in relationships," says Marian Nicholson, director of support group Herpes Virus Association. "You can get genital herpes from facial sores, but doctors often imply that partners have been unfaithful."

Ten years down the line, Alison and Simon are happily married with children. "Although it was awful at the time, it's not really changed our lives," says Simon, who has not had a recurrence. "We don't think about it now."

The Herpes Virus Association There are promising signs of helpline is 0171-609 9061

Tracking down daddy

I WOULD like to arrange a DNA test to discover who is the father of my son. Can this be done without going through my GP? You can arrange this directly

through a commercial laboratory, without the involvement of your doctor. Alternatively, a solicitor could arrange it on your behalf. You must have the cooperation of the presumed father, who will need to provide a blood sample, and your son will have to provide a sample of blood. If you, the mother, also give a sample, the test is simpler to perform. The tests will cost £360-£475, depending on the number of people tested. Contact Cellmark Diagnostics

I GET a terrible pain in the sole of my foot the first time I put my foot to the ground each morning. The pain gradnally wanes as I begin to walk, but I am left with an through the sole of the foot. A ache, punctuated by a sharp stabbing pain if I walk too far. I have had this for months.

(01235 528609) for full details.

You have plantar fasciitis, an inflammation of the tissues of the arch of the foot where they attach themselves to the front of A QUESTION OF HEALTH



DR FRED KAVALIER

pain. There are three possible ways of relieving this. First, wear a foam pad over the tender spot. Anti-inflammatory painkillers, such as ibuprofen, taken regularly for a couple of weeks, will help both the pain and the underlying inflammation. As a last resort, it is pos sible to have an injection of local anaesthetic and steroid combination of these measures usually solves the problem.

IS THERE an injection that will prevent me from suffering (and I do mean suffering) from hay fever this year? the heel bone. An X-ray might It is possible to have desensiwell show a small spur of bone tisation injections but these -a heel spur - at the site of your are rarely used in Britain be-

fatal reactions to them. A number of allergy clinics do, however, administer these under strictly controlled conditions. Another possibility is an injection of a long-acting steroid at the beginning of the season. But this also carries risks which probably outweigh the benefits of relieving your symptoms. A combination of antihistamine tablets, eye drops and nasal sprays is highly effective in controlling hay fever.

Please send your questions to A Question of Health, 'The Independent, I Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL: fax 0171-293 2182; or email to health@independent.co.uk. Dr Kavalier regrets that he is unable to respond personally to questions

7 IN 10 CHILDREN SURVIVE LEUKAEMIA. BUT ONLY 3 IN 10 ADULTS 0171 405 0101

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MEDIA

TV news has a duty to show us what armed conflict is really like, however distressing it may be. By Fergal Keane

Viewers, look away now

war's horror filmed close up, the kind of televised images that we rarely see in our newsrooms these days: soldiers firing wildly around the streets; crowds of terrified people cowering as the battle raged around them; a man running and begging for his life and then shot dead; and, in the final image, a boy of about 10 years old screaming for his life as Nigerian soldiers beat him and stripped him of his clothes.

The cameraman who filmed these images, Sorious Samura, has been covering the battle for Freetown, the capital of Sierra Leone, for several days. To do so he risked his life on an hourly basis. When I met him in Freetown he mentioned that he had some film. Would I like to see it? The following morning I sat and watched his video account of the battle. I soon realised that there was a great deal of material that simply could not be used - the vultures feasting on corpses outside the main hospital, the bodies set alight and burning in the streets, a man with his arms half hacked away.

But there were three images which I asked my cameraman to copy for me from the original tape: the man being executed, the child soldier being beaten and stripped and footage of a group of rebels setting fire to a house in which a family was hiding. At that point I had no idea how much of the material I would be able or want to use.

But as graphic illustrations of the brutality of the war in Sierra Leone they were without parallel: something told me these were images that deserved wider circulation.

Back in London and editing my first report for the Nine O'clock News I watched those images again and again. I showed them to as many of my colleagues as I could find. The editor and deputy editor of the Nine came into the edit suite repeatedly as we all tried to find a way of using some of the footage without offending good taste or alienating the audience. There were elements of what Sorious had filmed that simply could not be shown: the man being executed, the continual beating of the boy, Moses, by the Nigerians, the way he was hurled naked on the road in preparation for execution (he was saved in the nick of time by a Nigerian general and Sierra Leone's information minister).



A man suspected of collaborating with the rebels in Freetown is dragged into the street and moments later shot dead

claimed 5,000 lives in a few weeks, a war in which Britain was involved through its support for the Nigerianled forces of Ecomog and the goverriment of President Kabbah. It was also a war in which thousands of children were being forced to fight

as soldiers, mostly by the rebels. I knew from my own conversations with Save the Children that the issue of child soldiers was escalating into a major international problem - there are at least 300,000 children fighting in adult wars around the world. The crisis has become so acute that Save the Children

soldiers declared a war crime. And it also occurred to me that to

describe a war as "brutal" and "savage" without illustrating the truth of its brutality was pointless.

But we kept returning to a simple question: how much of this misery could we show without offending the audience or alienating them from the subject at hand?

And so we tried to edit and script as judiciously as possible, deciding against using the images of the prisoner as he was executed. With Moses, it was more difficult. Whatever we showed of his interrogation was bound to prove traumatic for material. My own logic was clear have the recruitment of child Throughout the day we debated filmed him recovering at a special idea such things were happening in correspondent

editors. At the end a consensus was achieved: we would show Moses being questioned, the initial blows being struck and the soldiers manhandling him on to the truck.

The imagery of the troops repeatedly beating Moses and the child lying naked on the road we would not show; we all took the view that they represented a horror too far. The critical point - that this war - was clearly made by the images we finally decided to use.

We were of course careful to tell the audience that Moses had But we decided to use some of the 🛮 is launching a major campaign to 🔝 some members of the audience. 🖯 survived his ordeal and, indeed, we

among ourselves and with the camp for war children. I believed then and I believe now that we were right to transmit the story as we did. A number of viewers did not agree. Too graphic, too horrible, unfit for television, some said.

It was the image of the child being brutalised by the Nigerians to which they objected. I was taken aback by the complaints. Surely what mattered was the brutal abuse being inflicted on children, not the fact that brutalised children in terrible ways a news organisation had chosen to show what was happening.

I was happy to see that some of the callers on the overnight reminded of this. telephone log felt we had done the

Sierra Leone, a country with which Britain has close links. The reaction from organisations dealing with children in crisis was especially heartening - there was unanimous

approval for what we had done. But if some people felt strongly that we should not have broadcast the images then I, as a public service broadcaster, am obliged to take through the telephone log of complaints and the e-mails; I also read a powerfully written, intelligent letter from a woman in Lancashire who wrote that showing such images changed nothing. After the Holocaust, Bosnia and Rwanda what was the point?

I disagree but that is a debate for another day. I am one of those who believes we should be judicious in our use of war imagery. I don't believe people should have horror forced down their throat every night. I have a three-year-old son and I don't want him going to bed with nightmares because of what he has seen on television.

That of course is why we have a 9pm watershed and why we warn audiences when we are about to transmit potentially upsetting material. But the fact is that there are times - the Rwandan genocide, the war in the former Yugoslavia and now Sierra Leone - when we need to show exactly what is happening. what is being done. Of course this should only happen after the watershed when the majority of those

However, I was surprised by the level of complaints from some members of the public. Of course they have a right to their point of view, and, as a public service broadcaster, I always make a point of listening carefully. But would there have been the same level of anxiety if a gruesome horror movie had been shown or a film with explicit sex scenes. I may be wrong but I rather doubt it.

We live in a world that seems worryingly comfortable with the idea of horror as fantasy: we can watch Bruce Willis and his equals blow their enemies to kingdom come and our children can watch it and imagine that all of this televised violence is safe. But war and violence are not safe. They kill children and adults, they maim and destroy innocence. Every so often we need to be

THE WORD ON THE STREET



IN A cost-cutting move of

sheer genius. Express Newspapers' IT department decided it could save a little money if it removed the computer system which provides legal warnings for its electronic cuttings library. Clearly a luxury Lord Hollick's lean machine could do without. Almost immediately an old Hugh Grant interview was pulled up in which the actor was libellously quoted. The quote. which had cost The Express £30,000, was repeated at the end of a new story about Grant as soon as the warning system ended and his lawyers have been in touch. A new legal warning system has been ordered.

MEANWHILE, AT Associated Newspapers, there are different problems with computers. They keep sprouting legs and running away. Police are investigating the theft of nine new state-of-the-art laptops which disappeared through a hole in a secure room's ceiling. and at Weekend magazine a designer's computer has disappeared. But if the thieves hadn't been so blatant would an organisation as wealthy as Associated ever have noticed they were gone?

DURING THE Chinese cultural revolution no one could afford to be without the little red book of Mao thoughts, The BBC which. like the Chinese Communist party, is a monolith flirting with capitalism, has just produced its own little red book - a mission statement card to help employees remember the corporation's aim: "To be the world's most creative and trusted broadcaster and programme maker..." This turns into an eight-line sentence with nine subordinate clauses. As Orwell observed, the first the English language.

Plumbing the depths in the search for sleaze

Press coverage of John Prescott's visit to the Maldives to inspect dving coral was a travesty, argues Roger Harrabin

AFTER WADING through the press coverage of John Prescott's He is staying in luxury hotels, sipwhistlestop visit to the Maldives I have developed an unfamiliar and unexpected sense of pity for some of Britain's senior politicians - and a sense of despair at the failure of the media to explain to the public the big picture of what on earth is really happening.

Here are the facts: the world has experienced the most pervasive and destructive death of coral reefs that scientists have ever registered. On some reefs in the Maldives, 95 per cent of corals are dead. In Vietnam. some ancient corals thought to be more than 1,000 years old have been killed. Some sober scientists are referring to the episode as a global catastrophe. And this month the US State Department asserted that climate change fuelled by the air pollution we create was probably partly

This massive and worrying upheaval in nature has scarcely been reported in the British media. Mr Prescott travelled to the Maldives at and to gather ammunition for future global negotiations by witnessing the coral destruction for himself.

Here is the story as it was spun by most of the media: After years of holiday at the taxpayers' expense. ping pina coladas, getting a suntan. and having fun scuba diving on the coral reef. And by the way, he is fat ... so he is fair game for ridicule if he wears a wetsuit

Of course, any ministerial visit to a paradise such as the Maldives was always rich in "junket story" potential and the Fleet Street die was cast when The Sun concocted a fictitious postcard from Mr Prescott to Tony Blair, apologising for missing the Budget while farting his way through a plateful of samosas. The news editors put political correspondents or "colour" reporters on the case and kept at a distance the environment correspondents who were best able to judge the value of the mission. The result for Mr Prescott was a

very mixed blessing. He will go to forthcoming UN environment ne-gotiations with increased personal clout, and may capture the imagi-nation of his fellow ministers as he a member of the British paparazzi. describes his dive in a "graveyard" the end of an official visit to India to of coral, and pleads for more action discuss the issue with the President to cut pollution. He has also helped tell the coral story to millions of BBC listeners and viewers at home and abroad. But his integrity has been called into question.

condemning Tory sleaze, Labour are Prescott felt it sharply. Mr Prescott now up to their necks in it. John was indeed thrilled by the fish life he have suffered. The richer fish life in Prescott has taken an extravagant saw on his dives, but the dive itself the Maldives made more powerful



was disrupted by potentially dangerous problems with his scuba equipment because he had not had time to try on the gear beforehand. And for the rest of the two-and-a-half day visit, Mr Prescott sweltered through visits and meetings in a full suit and tie in an attempt to deny a

With hindsight the Government's spin doctors could have avoided the easiest media hit by moving the story location from the honeymoon destination of the Maldives to the lesser-known Indian coral islands of the Laccadives. Presentationally this would have been safer, but the impact of the coral story would

TV, and the "Paradise Lost" story of the Maldives had much more listener appeal.

I have returned from the trip with a burning anger at media trivialisation of a major environmental issue. Do the people who make news decisions really believe that the public do not care about such things as the future of the planet? And who in their right mind will want to lead the nation if we continue to hound all politicians as if they are all rascals and cheats?

Roger Harrabin travelled to the Maldives with the Deputy Prime Minister to report on the recent global swathe of coral death. He is Environment Specialist on BBC Radio | perhaps irrelevant,"

The global village still needs its parish pump

Figures show local newspapers now lead the way in increased sales, and national editors are taking note. By Naomi Marks

WHILE IT may be fashionable to speak of living in a global village, it seems that what people want most as we approach the millennium is news of what is happening on their doorstep.

Latest ABC results for weekly local newspapers suggest that a vigorous back-to-basics philosophy is paying dividends for these titles. with those concentrating most on parochial coverage recording remarkable sales increases.

And Independent Television Commission research shows that while, between 1991 and 1993, national news was the preferred programming, with local and regional news coming second, between 1995 and 1997, the positions reversed. Mirror editor Piers Morgan plans

to be the first national newspaper editor to take such findings seriously, with a regional offensive designed to capitalise on the public's apparent appetite for all things local. Morgan won't go into detail about

his planned "Project X", but says it is intended to repeat the sales successes notched up by The Mirror in Scotland and Ireland – both regions where he has set up Mirror fiefdoms", each with their own reporting team under a separate editor. In Scotland, Mirror sales went

from 20,000 to nearly 100,000 when lovely front-page picture." the regional strategy was combined with price-cutting Says Morgan: "We feel there's a lot of scope if you concentrate on particular areas where there is a real sense of community, rather than give them a load of stuff in the main edition, which is

It is an offensive that, Morgan

agrees, draws strongly on the roots local dog warden because of his restrategy of local newspapers. After years of trying to stall sales losses by mimicking Fleet Street papers, many are now reverting to type with parish-pump news proving a winning formula with readers.

As recently released July to December 1998 figures show, nearly 70 per cent of the UK's 379 weekly paidfor newspapers increased their sales year-on-year, with nine recording double-figure percentage rises. Graham Smith, the editor of the

East Kent Mercury, which covers Deal, Sandwich and Dover, is still reeling from the success of having topped the best-performers' league for weekly papers, with a 23.8 per cent rise in sales year-on-year

It is with pride that he refers to his title as "a very traditional, nofrills type of paper". In the year since Smith became editor, he has championed a small-scale version of the Mirror's tactic.

In response to readers' demands for more news about their immediate vicinity, he launched a Dover edition, and put in place 17 community correspondents. "They give us lovely little yarns, such as the person in one village who kept having the gnomes in his garden nicked, so he chained them down. It made a

Smith says the secret of his paper's success is its style, as well as its substance: "We don't try to ape the nationals at all, and certainly not the tabloids. I do think experience shows that local papers that try to ape them seem to come a cropper in terms of sales." When, recently, the local mayor was attacked by the

lationship with the warden's wife, the paper splashed on the story, but it did so in typically restrained fashion. But it is the addition of the new Dover edition of the Mercury that Smith has to thank for the bulk of the sales increase.

Others, too, testify to the success of editionising. Three of the top-five best-performing weeklies put their success down to this tactic. And the editors of the best-performing regional evening, the Doncaster Star, and best-performing regional morn-ing, the Paisley Daily Express, both point to keeping things "local, local, local" as the key.

There are, of course, other factor affecting the health of the local newspaper sector, not least a buoyant economy and an ownership restructuring which has seen many papers return to the hands of dedicated regional press owners from large media conglomerates.

Piers Morgan admits that earlier attempts to increase regional coverage have been "a cop-out", consisting of either single-page changes or columns of regional news-in-briefs. "Project X" promises something different.

"What we've seen is that where we target the Irish and Scottish with their own news stories, and perhaps lead the paper on them more than the London-based stuff, then we do better. So, you would imagine that in places like Manchester and Birmingham, if we can offer some regional coverage which complements the main paper, then we can be successful, too. That's what we're going to do."

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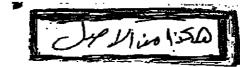


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Why the BBC should stop chasing ratings PIVE YEARS ago I asked a senior BBC executive "who are what has News at Ten's demise means that the BBC must aim for quality, not viewing figures. By Bernard Clark

the greatest influence on television ratings in Britain?"

His reply "The Prime Minister, of ourse." There followed a fascinating exposition of how John Major's refusal to allow the death of News of Ten had saved the BBC up to 10 points of their audience share.

He added, "If News at Ten ever does go, the BBC, as presently constituted, is in trouble – and will need to rethink its core purpose."

As we now know from the sharpest drop of ratings on BBCI for a generation, he was right. But if the BBC realised what would happen in advance, why did they take so little action? The answer is deviously

complex, and while old hands like me remain a little sceptical, I cannot fault their logic. The word "ratings" is about to be dispatched into BBC history. From now on, the BBC will seek to compete in a different way. Traditionally, the BBC

believed it must appeal to a mass audience in order to justify the mandatory licence fee. Over the

last decade or so, we have seen them retreat from a target of 50 per cent of all viewing, towards a comfort zone of 40 per cent. Now that will be shaved further, down to a third, or within a few years, perhaps just 30 per cent. That is not their fault, just the inevitable outcome of having to respond to

market-place on a fixed income. But within the last year, the BBC has come to realise that every expensive but smilless Hollywood blockbuster on FTV is also an opportunity for them to appear "a bit special".

a hyper-competitive television

The word watershed has two meanings in this context. In TV land it has always meant that moment after 9pm when espectable children should be in bed, and controllers can show naked breasts or contemplate the word fuck.

It was in order to be able to play adult films in the heart of its schedule that ITV shed itself of News at Ten. But the ramifications go far deeper than ITV increasing its share at the

expense of BBC1.

The broader meaning of the word watershed came with the overnights figures of Monday 8 March when ITV took a 48 per cent share of prime time to BBC 1's 25 per cent. BBC TV realised it must separate itself in spirit from commercial television. From that moment on, the BBC would have to stop competing head to head for audiences, and

go for the nation's heart and soul. The Nine o'clock News is the key to understanding what's going to happen. In terms of ratings, it's a scheduling disaster when faced with the new ITV line-up. Research shows that viewers want their evening's entertainment to build up after news, not have news in the

middle. This is kindergarten programme planning, and the clever schedulers at the BBC know this. So why is the Nine o'clock News still there, and with a virtually unknown presenter about to join? Is it a mistake of

gigantic proportions? The answer is - probably - no. In fact it is part of a carefully worked out strategy to manage an inevitable decline in audience share, while increasing its sense of being indispensable

And the canny old BBC understands this does not mean they can settle into some kind of elitist backwater, and need not be popular. When they have special programmes, they still need people to watch them. But it does mean they must

slavishly in the bums-on-seats market without caring who's For instance: ITV has the

get real, and not compete

bucks to pay for a first-run Bond, This means the BBC will no

which decimated BBC1. Fine. Lots of us like Bond, but leave it to ITV. Police Camera Action and Families at War are great mindless pulp, and precisely what commercial television should produce. But a public service broadcaster, protected by

statute? I don't think so. In order to compete full blast for the popular audience, late evening news on both channels would have to go, and so far there's no evidence to suggest the BBC is losing its public service nerve to be commercial in the face of the ferociously competitive schedule on ITV.

The internal battle will continue to rage between the purists who want their BBC tucked into the nation's soul, and the populists who believe that survival for the licence fee means a 40 per cent plus share of viewing - but it looks like the purists are winning.

longer attempt to be all things to all people; instead, it will be important thines to all people and if those things are different and distinctive, that more than justifies the licence fee.

Different and distinctive, haven't we heard those words elsewhere? The world of broadcast television is nothing if not an eco-system. Faced with an onslaught from ITV, as the BBC becomes "different and distinctive", the pressure will tell on Channel 4, who are themselves statutory charged

with that responsibility, caught in a vice between a semi-popular but different BBC1, and a different kind of niche BBC2.

And worse, the BBC may by then have re-captured Channel 4's deepest thinker, however much Michael Jackson protests he does not want to be Director General. As I wrote earlier, the ramifications of moving News at Ten are devious and complex.

Of course the traditionalists will say that for once in his life John Major was right and ITV should have stayed as it was, but I do not agree. I welcome the requirement for the BBC to redefine its role, to work out anew what it should give us for our licence fees.

Soon we will hear a great deal about the BBC being different in fact it's already underway. The BBC's chief executive of broadcasting, Will Wyatt put down a marker when speaking to the House of Commons All Party

Just last week he told them, The differences between what we do as a public service broadcaster and what the rest of broadcasting does, has grown. and will grow further."

Which why, as the last two weeks overnights landed like turds on the Television Centre carpet, Auntie did not reach for the smelling salts. The figures had been expected, and a long term strategy to protect the licence fee was already in place.

Huld a simple

ears, finally prove its real conqueror

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The Night and Day and Programme magazines (top left and middle) of Sir David English's day have been

revamped as part of a new Mail on Sunday package

stark naked

his rucksack?

The highly successful 'Mail on Sunday' has been relaunched. It's certainly new, but is it improved? By Peter Cole

Any old Sunday?

he Moll newspapers have become the great exceptions. As we discuss the general decline in sales of newspapers, talk of irreversible decline, and search for reasons (young people don't read, the Internet etc), we have to qualify all such conversations with "except for the Mail and The Mail on Sunday, of course".

charse" about it. It is the ea thing in the world to hide behind a tible to the "clear out the old guard has an impact trend-if all papers are losing sales and hire young writers" ethos so on the main then it cannot be our fault - but it's common today. the hardest thing in the world to buck one. The Mail's daily and Sunday newspapers consistently do just that, and have done over a long pe-

While the Sunday Express is losing sales at a rate of 11 per cent a year (comparing the most recent six-month period with the same period a year ago), The Mail on Sunday is increasing sales at 4.8 per cent. The Express has sunk to just over one million sales; The Mail on Sunday is selling over 2.3 million copies, and rising.

It is a spectacular success, much

envied by other editors, who spend Northampton Thai their time discussing how it is done. I have always thought the Daily Mail does it better, with more conviction, but the formula, put simply, is understanding the audience with great precision, knowing, anticipating and reinforcing their preoccupations and prejudices, being confident enough not to follow the pack, ie sticking to their own news agenda, tries to think up promoting hard, and employing fine clever titles any Why "of course"? There's no "of journalists over a long period of time – the *Mail* has never been susced

> repackaged itself, more a face-lift. of The Moul on than a new model, a few "extras" Sunday was thrown in as standard. It has that it offered changed the feel and content of its a more conmagazine, Night & Day, and added solidated a Review in the format of the news-package paper. Why? Why fix it when it was

Generally the paper seems to have tightened up under the new editor Peter Wright, with more emphasis on news than is often the case on Sunday, and a harder political edge. It was brave to name Joe Ashton as the MP not having sex in the

brothel, when most other papers left out the name "for legal The launch of

itor Richard Addis' new section, Relonger, they all section. One of The Mail on Sunday has just the attractions

than most of

its rivals – but with the new section not only Stewart Steven's column but many of the topical personality features in which the paper specialises, which provided engaging variety to the old main section, have moved out of this section and into Review. It has left the first section news-and-sport only, and presented the usual problem of the early pages of a Review section, before you get to the reviews. What makes a Review front page? The early signs are that The Mail of Sunday is going to find this as much a problem as the other pa-

So why introduce the new section? I suppose because the evidence from The Sunday Times, which has so much in common with The Mail on Sunday - each paper is probably the other's main rival, which Richard Addis (left), consultant on Review, Christena Appleyard, editor of Night and Day; Peter Wright, editor of Mail on Sunday makes it the more interesting that

they are the two most successful Sunday papers of the moment - is Day, which was refreshingly differthat the public likes multi-section newspapers. But Review will have The Mail on Sunday's financial

75 - 1 Trings Free

section, which includes personal finance, is probably the best such section around, but that was there before the face-lift, as was Night & Day which, unlike Financial Mail on Sunday, has been substantially

changed in this new package. The previous Night & Doy was accused of being too masculine, but then there was You magazine, the most women's magaziney of all Sun-

ent from its rivals, has taken on a glossy cover, absorbed the broadcast listings magazine Progrumme, now called Choice, and lost the reviews to Review, obviously. But in so doing it has made both Review and Night & Day more conventional. The old Night & Day had an original ap-

The original conception of Week-end, the Mail's outstanding Saturday TV and features magazine, was Christena Appleyard's. She later left for *The Times*, but is now back day magazines (that continues rel- at the Mail and behind the Night &

proach to book reviews in particu-

Doy relaunch. She had a new it tended to be original. This latsex questionnaire for willing celebrities with something to atively unchanged). Now Night & sell. That ran its course and was re-

placed by an unreadable questionnaire on moral dilemmas. But the sex item is back in the revised Night & Day as "A lay in the life of", which allows an exhibitionist noncelebrity to reminisce in a softerthan-soft porn way. It comes across as precious and rather tacky. "The lowdown" is another of those fact-box features, which seeks to provide an accessible brief on a major figure from the arts. It's a rip-off of The Guardian's Pass Notes, which was itself a rip-off of the late Sunday Cor-

respondent's Pass Notes. So here is the problem. When the Mail (daily or Sunday) did something Preston

"sex and shopping" item in est Mail on Sunday revamp has Weekend which included a made the paper more conventional than it was before, more like other papers. It has produced the packages in the same shape you find elsewhere, nicked some old ideas, produced a magazine which, on the outside at least, feels like any other colour magazine - only The Mail on Sunday has already got one of those, so now it has two.

It will continue to sell because the journalism's good and the opposition is lousy. But it lacks that spark of flair and originality David English always contributed, or demanded.

Peter Cole is the former editor of the 'Sunday Correspondent' and is now a professor of journalism at the University of Central Lancashire,

The editor who escaped from the lifestyle ghetto

Weren Jurgensen has just been appointed the first woman editor of 'USA Today', the largest circulation newspaper in America. By Andrew Marshall

for what must be the millionth time. as they were in the 1970s. "They "Insofar as my appointment says to were not taken particularly seriyoung women, you can do this too', I think that's wonderful, but I didn't set out to be the first woman says, just as she moved from the Life editor of USA Today," she says, somewhat wearily.

Today, and only the second woman editor of a national title in America, is precisely what Ms Jurgensen is, at the age of 50. Sitting in her office with its commanding view of the city Mashington, she is at the top of the legest-circulation newspaper in Britain) the newspaper industry has a relentlessly male culture.

There was warm comment in the other papers at her appointment, but she plays it down. "This is just the natural progression of women in the

ously." Since then, they have worked their way "through the ranks", she

torial page, to the editor's office.
USA Today has a more balanced mix of men and women than some of its rivals. It targeted women America, a country where (as in place. On the day she was interviewed, last Friday, 40 per cent of the articles in the news section of the paper were written by women, compared to 30 per cent in The Washington Post and 25 per cent in The point where its five-day circulation

KAREN JURGENSEN raises her workplace," she says. Women are no Yet perhaps the most surprising longer limited to the style sections, thing about that comparison is that it can be made at all. At its birth, USA Today was ridiculed by the rest of the industry as "McPaper". It was said to be insubstantial, dominated by quick bites of stories matched section, through special projects with "infographics". Heavens, it had editor, managing editor and, for the But the first woman editor of USA past eight years, editor of the edi-pect it to survive, let alone flourish. But Gannett, the owners, pressed

on, sinking money into a project that looked to many like a surefire loser. Since then, the paper has come on readers before many US papers by leaps and bounds. It has made had got around to thinking about the money for the last five years, it has changing demographics of the workcountry, and the stories have got longer, heavier, more newsy.

And while the industry as a whole has contracted in America, USA Today has steadily expanded to the now stands over 2 million when



Karen Jurgensen

bulk sales are included, and 1.65m by the standards of the Audit Bureau of Circulation, just behind The Wall

It is Ms Jurgensen's job to build

on the achievements of David covers a market with three time tices pinned up in the office, is now years. Her aim, she says, is to turn what is already a successful product into a "lasting institution". When she was asked about the job last summer, she says, she "sat and thought about it and made lots of lists" of positive and negative factors. "I looked at what I'd already done and decided it was a wonderful offer."

She has a reputation for being calm and cool-headed, say colleagues. Her office and her desk are meticulously ordered, with just the family pictures to give a personal touch. She is a very disciplined person, she says, one of the things that helps protect her against the debilitating pressures of editing. "I tend to be pretty organised and I tend to be a delegator." She will need to be: running a machine with dozens of links between the paper and the onprint sites in the US and abroad, that line product which, according to no-

makes it a huge management task. site on the Internet. She hit the headlines herself

briefly in 1990, when she described in a moving piece an incident that happened in her 20s. "I am a rape victim," she wrote, describing the episode in horrifying detail. "I want you to know the police treated me as though I was the criminal. I thought, we can't be silent. We have to let people know that we're here." It brought many warm letters of support and much appreciation by those on the paper and among readers.

Part of the job will be to continue to build on the relationship the paper has built with its readership. "I would like to discover the kind of newspaper readers will care about," she says. She also wants closer

Mazarella, editor for the last four zones from the Pacific to the Atlantic, the largest general-interest news There is justifiable pride among

the paper's older hands about what has been achieved. "We built it from nothing in less than 17 years," says Ms Jurgensen. "But do I think we're perfect" No." And if there was one thing '-- t she could change about the just overnight, just by clicking her fingers? She thinks for a while and then says: "Authority."

It is true that while the paper has achieved huge things, it is still not seen as a heavyweight in the same league as The New York Times. Yet that is, partly, a factor of its vast nationwide readership, the diversity of

which is reflected in its pages. It is a formidable task, but one that Ms Jurgensen clearly relishes. "You try to do the best you can," she

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THE CELEBRATION (15) he helman and hercommends, a Flat Chelsen Canema, Cut Screen on Buller Street, Reper

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APRILE (15)

Director: Nanni Moretti

charming. West End: Metro, Renoir

ARLINGTON ROAD (15)

Director: Mark Pellington

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Robin Wright Penn stars as an abused woman called upon by William Hurt's lawyer to testify against her brutal ex-boyfriend. West End: ABC Piccodilly

THE OPPOSITE OF SEX (18)

Don Roos' harum-scarum trip through American gender politics stars Christina Ricci as the dastardly teen whose precocious antics send the adults into a state. West End: Worner Village West End. Reperiory: Watermans Arts Centre

NEW FILMS

Starring: Nanni Moretti, Silvia Nono More meta-documentary shenanigans from Nami Moretti, a sort of Roman Woody Allen complete with the same nerdy patter, the same self-reflexive neuroses. His skittish, mercurial Aprile freewheels through a three-year period talian politics. Meantime, running as a kind of simny counterpoint, goes the director's will he won'the intention to make a musical about a Trotskyite pastry chef. Impossible to pigeon-hole. Aprile dances to its own realist/absurdist rhythms; before style. West End: Curzon Soho, Ritzy Cinema. bowing out with a finale that's both ridiculous and

Starring: Jeff Bridges, Tim Robbins Trouble's a-brewing behind the manicured suburban lawns of Mark Pellington's intriguingly staged paranoia thriller, which sees Jeff Bridges' college prof becoming suspicious about the antics of his outwardly respectable neighbour (Tim Robbins). Meanwhile, Pellington goes big on skewed carnera angles, yet rings too few changes in his film's familiar territory. With Joan Cusack and Hope Davies. West End: ABC Shoftesbury Avenue, Clapham Picture House, Notting Hill Coronet,

A NIGHT AT THE ROXBURY (15) Director: John Fortenberry Starring: Will Ferrell, Chris Kattan

Odeon Swiss Cottage, Plaza, UCI Whiteleys, Firgin Fulham Road, Virgin Trocadero, Warner

Village West End. And local cinemas

Fortenberry's indulgent showcase for Saturday Night Live favourites Ferrell and Kattan is so bovine that it moos. Here come our imbecilic heroes: somebbling with daddy (Dan Hedaya) and cruising the mall-spaces of Nineties LA, while one ham-firsted comedy sequence follows another: Think Dramb and Dumber without the wit. One whole night. It only feels that long. West End: Plaza, Virgin Trocadero. And local cinemas

SEUL CONTRE TOUS (18) Director: Gaspar Noé

Starring: Philippe Nahon, Blandine Lenor Welcome to "shit-hole" France. Your guide: a sociopathic butcher (Nahon) who is pushed over the edge when he figures out that someone has abused his daughter. The style: crash-zooms and in-yer-face close-ups. Less straight cinema than a kind of whiplashing fairground ride, Seul Contre Tous is an attention-grabbing debut for the talented Noé. But its harsh exposé of modern France is compromised by its creator's relentlessly gimmicky

SOUTHPAW (15) Director: Liam McGrath

Starring: Francis Barrett This coarse-grained, warm-hearted film charts the rise of 10-year-old light-welter weight Francis Barrett, an Irish traveller with dreams of Olympic glory. Bobbing around the caravan sites of County Galway, Liam McGrath's documentary gently spotlights anti-traveller prejudice while paying lip-service to the views of local eccentrics. Southpow is a shade soft in its centre, but it's impeccably well-intentioned, West End: Metro

WAKING NED (PG) Director: Kirk Jones Starring: Ian Bannen, David Kelly

Good news first: Ned, a salt-of-the-earth resident of Tully in rural Ireland, has just won the lottery. Bad news: Ned is dead. One a rattle-bag of comedic misadventure as two skallywags scheme to get their paws on the loot. The film has a zesty undertow of black comedy, but is too air-brushed for its own good. West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Barbican Screen, Clapham Picture House, Odean Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Odeon West End, Ritzy Cinema, Screen on Baker Street, Screen on the Green, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelseo. Repertory: Watermans Arts Centre. And local cinemas

GENERAL RELEASE

AFFLICTION (15) See The Independent Recommends, above. West End: ABC Swiss Centre

Jonathan Demme's adaptation of Toni Morrison's multi-layered novel was always going to make for an uneasy marriage; hopping shakily between upfront dramatics and down-in-the-mix mysticism. Still, heartfelt acting and a vibrant visual sense paper over all manner of cracks. West End: Ritzu Cinema. Warner Village West End. And local cinemas

A BUG'S LIFE (T)

Humble insect Flik tries to save his community from marauding grasshoppers (headed by Kevin Spacey). West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Clapham Picture House, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Morble Arch, Odeon Mezzanine, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Ritzy Cinema, UCI And local cinemas Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Trocadeто, Warner Village West End. And local cinemas

CENTRAL STATION (15)

Rio's teeming terminus serves as the launchpad for Walter Salles's Oscar-nominated Brazilian fable about a retired schoolmarm and her abandone nine-year-old charge. The trip takes in all facets of Brazil's displaced and poverty-stricken culture, yet Salles steadfastly refuses to make any heavy handed political point. West End: Borbicon Screen, Clapham Picture House, Curzon Mayfair, Gate Notting Hill, Renoir, Ritzy Cinema, Screen on the Hill. Virgin Fulham Road. Local: Croydon Clocktower

ENEMY OF THE STATE (15)

Will Smith's fall-guy DA teams up with Gene Hackman's pensioned-off Pentagon warhorse and gets embroiled in all manner of Big Brother-type trouble. West End: ABC Partion Street, Odeon Marble Arch, Virgin Trocadero. Local: Acton Park Royal Warner Village, Croydon Warner Village

ESTEN (THE CELEBRATION) (15)

See The Independent Recommends, above. West End: Chelsea Cinema, Curzon Soho, Screen on Baker Street. Repertory: Phoenix Cinema

HIDEOUS KINKY (15)

Through the landscape of 1970s Morocco treads Kate Winslet's hippie single-mum, her two daughters unwillingly in tow. Winslet does well as the tale's permanently strung-out, unsated matriarch. West End: ABC Swiss Centre, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Virgin Fulham Road

HELARY AND JACKIE (15) Full-throttle playing from Rachel Griffiths and Emily Watson sustains Anand Tucker's warts-andall biopic of the Du Pré sisters, Hilary (shy, married figurest) and Jacqueline (world-famous cellist). West End: ABC Ponton Street

LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL (LA VITA E BELLA) (PG) Baroberto Benigni's comedy, the writer-director stars as a Jewish bookseller in fascist Italy. He is spirited off to a death-camp and strives to convince his son that it is just an eccentric game. West End: Curzon Soho, Curzon Minema, Ödeon Kensington, Ritzy Cinemo, Screen on the Hill, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Haymarket. Repertory: Phoenix Cinema, The Pullman Everyman Local: Warner Village North Finchley

LITTLE VOICE (15)

In her bedroom, Jane Horrocks perfects strident Shirley Bassey/Judy Garland impersonations. Bracing black comedy, plus a marvellously weighted turn from Michael Caine push the film through to the final curtain. West End: Odeon West End, Virgin Fulham Road. And local cinemas

George Clooney plays the law-breaking hero as a down-and-dirty version of Cary Grant, and turns in the best performance of his career so far. West End: Ritzy Cinema. Repertory: Prince Charles. Local: Wimbledon Odeon

PATCH ADAMS (12)

Through the hallowed halls of medical college goes Hunter "Patch" Adams (Robin Williams); a shock-doc who has the patients in stitches while giving a collective hernia to the stuffy Establishment. It's like the ultimate distillation of the ultimate Robin Williams movie: the life sucked out and replaced by syrup. West End: ABC Tottenhom Court Road, Empire Leicester Square, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Trocadero.

PECKER (18)

Trash auteur John Waters swerves into sumier streets with Pecker, his satirical tale of an amateur photographer adopted by New York's elite. Repertory: Prince Charles

See The Independent Recommends, above.

West End: Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Plaza, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Haymarket, Warner Village West End. And local cinemas

SCHIZOPOLIS (15)

In Steven Soderbergh's experimental film, suburban manners, corporate paranoia, dental hygiene and the rituals of adultery are deconstructed in energetic, scattergun fashion, though the film is finally too film-school wacky to appeal. West End: Curron Soho

SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE (15)

See The Independent Recommends, above. West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Empire Leicester Square, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Trocadero. And local cinemas

THE THIN RED LINE (15)

See The Independent Recommends, above. West End: Clapham Picture House, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Leicester Square, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Fulham Road. And

THE 39 STEPS (1935 VERSION) (PG) The 39 Steps stands proud as the most polished pic of Hitchcock's early, British period. The film is as light and bracing as oxygen: all with twists and

throwaway lines as it builds towards a crescendo.

West End: ABC Swiss Centre THIS YEAR'S LOVE (18)

A cast of Britain's finest (Kathy Burke, Ian Hart et al) weave to and fro through David Kane's Camden-set essay on urban romance. West End: Gate Notting Hill, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Haymarket, Ritzy Cinema, Warner Village West End And local cinemas

VERY BAD THINGS (18)

Peter Berg's debut serves up swaggering gross-out comedy, but it's finally a film with nowhere to go save from shrill to shriller to shrillest. With Cameron Diaz. West End: Warner Village West End. Local: Acton Park Royal Warner Village

YOU'VE GOT MAIL (PG)

Tom Hanks and Meg Ryan star in this contrived romance saved by a shrewd Internet plot book. West End: Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Haymarkei, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End. And local cinemas

YOUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS (18) Another troubling X-ray of American mores from In the Company of Men director Neil LaBute. West End: ABC Piccodilly

Pleasantville (12)

Two Ninetics tecnagers are magicked into the world of a favourite Fifties sitcom and begin to exert a dramatic influence on its conformist blackand-white idyll. A witty, inventive parable.

THE FIVE BEST FILMS

Danish director Thomas Vinterberg's superlative

black comedy centres on the 60th birthday of a family patriarch who finds himself at the heart of dark secrets that unexpectedly emerge. The Thin Red Line (15) Terrence Malick returns to the screen after a

20-year absence with a hugely ambitious film about

the battle of Guadaleanal. A war movie of a sort,

though what that sort might be is uncertain.

Affliction (15) Paul Schrader's bleak study in fatherhood and fatalism. stars Nick Nolte as a man struggling to escape the influence of his violent dad. James Coburn (right), in an Oscar-winning

performance.

Shakespeare in Love (15) This enjoyable, multi-Oscar winning film suggests how romance fired Shakespeare with the creative inspiration for Romeo and Julier.

ANTHONY OUTNN

THE FIVE BEST PLAYS

THE INDEPENDENT RECOMMENDS

Troilus and Cressida (Olivier, NT, London)

This theatre and this Shakespeare play are made for each other, a fact proved by the masterly sweep and precision of focus in Trevor Nunn's gifted production. To 19 May

Shockheaded Peter

(Lyric Hammersmith, London) The Strawe peter stones, served up as an univegettably gory feast of the comic reacable in this mordantly inventive evening of music theatre. To 10.4pr

Copenhagen (Duchess Theatre. London)

Michael Fravn's profound and haunting meditation on science, morality and the mysteries of human motivation. To 7.4uc

The Dispute (Poole Arts Centre) Neil Bartlett's devilishly good production of Mariyaux's clever tragicomedy (right). To 27 Mar

Volpone

(Swan Theatre, Stratford) Comedies don't come any funnier or more astringent than Ben Jonson's brilliant dissection of avaricious, over-reaching egotism. To 26 Mar.

THE FIVE BEST SHOWS

Jackson Pollock (Tate Gallery)

Big retrospective for the wild hero of Abstract Expressionism (going on Old Master). The buildup is slow and the end is sorry, but the brief "drip" period deserves every superlative. To 6 Ian-

Portraits by Ingres (National Gallery) Some of the most intense portraintre ever. Exquisite melanger of flesh and tabric, dreams of sex and money. To 25 Apr.

Patrick Caulfield (Hayward Gallery) The modern object-world made luminous. Caulield is a virtuoso of many styles.

and this retrospective offers the range (nota) - notable those for become outlines.

flockled with translucent colour. To 11 4re

Oppé Watercolour Collection (Whitworth, Manchester) Classic British watercolours made largely outdoors. mehadine Alexander Cozens' skelches, Consiable. John Sell Cotman and Francis Towne. In 2.4/7

Richard Deacon (Tate, Liverpool)

Chunky, curvaceous assemblages of wood, metal. and plastic by the noted sculptor. To 16 Mac.

CINEMA WEST END

ABC PICCADILLY (0171-287 4322) © Piccadilly Circus Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.10pm, 8.35pm Loved 1.30pm, 6.15pm Your Friends and Neighbors 4.05pm, 8.45pm ABC SHAFTESBURY AVENUE

(0870-902 0402) ← Leicester Square/lottenham Court Road Arlington Road 1.05pm, 3.25pm, 8.40am Elizabeth 1.40pm, 5.15pm, 8.20pm 8.30pm Hideous Kinky 1.50pm. 4.05pm. 6.15pm, 8.35pm La Vie Revée des Anges 1.45pm.

Revée des Anges 1. 4.05pm, 6.25pm, 8.45pm ABC TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD
(0870-902 0414) & Tottenham
Court Road Patch Adams
1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.20pm, 9.10pm
Shakespeare In Love 1.10pm,
3.50pm, 6.30pm, 9.25pm Waking
Med 1.25pm, 4pm, 6.45pm, 9.35pm

BARBICAN SCREEN (0171-638 8891) & Moorgate Central Station 6.15pm Screen Talk: Simon Schama 7pm Waking Ned 8.40pm

CHELSEA CINEMA 8.50pm

CLAPHAM PICTURE HOUSE CLAPHAM PICTURE NOUSE
(0171-498 3323) & Clapham
Common Arlington Road 1.15pm,
4pm, 5.30pm, 9pm Central
Station 1.45pm, 4.20pm, 7pm,
9.20pm The Thin Red Line
1.15pm, 4.45pm, 8.15pm Walding
Ned 1.30pm, 3.30pm, 5.30pm,
7.30pm, 9.30pm

CURZON MAYFAIR (0171-369 1720) & Green Park Central Station 1.30pm, 3.45pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm

CURZON MINEMA (0171-369 1723) & Hyde Park Corner/Knightsbridge La Vita è Bella 3pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm

CHRZON SOHO CURZON SOHO
(0171-734 2255 (12ncon-6pm))

- Leicester Square/fottenham
Court Road Eye of God 1pm
Festen 2,45pm, 4,45pm, 6,45pm,
9pm Niagara Niagara 6pm Seul
Contre Tous 1,45pm, 3,45pm,
7,45pm, 9,45pm La Vita è Bella
1pm, 4,15pm, 6,30pm, 9,15pm

EMPIRE LEICESTER SQUARE (0990-888990) & Leicester Square Patch Adams 1pm, 3.40pm, 5.20pm, 9pm Shakespeare In Lowe 12.15pm, 3pm, 5.50pm, 8.45pm The Truman Show 3.20pm, 6.05pm, 8.30pm

GATE NOTTING HILL (0171-727 4043) ⊕ Notting Hill Gate Central Station 4.25pm Elizabeth 2.15pm Prometheus 8pm

METRO
(0171-734 1506) & Piccadilly
Circus/Leicester Square Aprile
3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm Southpaw
2pm, 6,30pm, 8,45pm

NOTTING HILL CORONET (0171-727 6705) & Notting Hill Gate Arlington Road 3.15pm, 6pm, 8.35pm ODEON CAMPEN TOWN

ODEON CAMDEN TOWN
(08705-050007) © Camden
Town Patch Adams 12.30pm,
6pm Pleasantville 11.45am,
2.35pm. 5.35pm, 8.25pm
Shakespeare in Love 2.55pm,
8.20pm The Thin Red Line
12.45pm, 4.15pm, 7.45pm This
Year's Love 1.05pm, 3.30pm,
5.50pm, 8.50pm Waking Ned
11.35am, 2pm, 4.20pm,
6.40pm, 9.05pm 6.40pm, 9.05pm ODEON HAYMARKET

3.40pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm ODEON KENSINGTON

(08705-050007) ⊕ High Street Kensington Pauch Adams 12.40pm, 3.35pm, 6.30pm, 9.30pm Pleasambrille 12.30pm, 3.25pm, 6.20pm, 9.15pm Shakespeare in Love 12.25pm, 3.20pm, 6.15pm, 9.10pm The Thin Red Line 1.25pm, 5.05pm, 8.45pm La Vita è Bella 1.05pm, 3.50pm, 6.35pm, 9.20pm Walding Ned 12.05pm, 2.30pm, 4.55pm, 7.20pm, 2.45pm 4.55pm, 7.20pm, 9.45pm ODEON LEICESTER SQUARE

(08705-050007) & Loicester Square The Thin Red Line 12.40pm, 4.10pm, 7.45pm

ODEON MARBLE ARCH
(08705-050007) → Marble Arch
Patch Adams 3.40pm, 9.15pm
Pleasantville 12.40pm, 3.25pm,
6.10pm, 9.15pm Shakespeare in
Love 12.55pm, 3.35pm, 6.20pm,
9.05pm The Thin Red Line 1pm,
4.35pm, 8.10pm Waking Ned
12.45pm, 3pm, 5.15pm, 7.30pm,
9.45pm You've Got M@il
12.50pm, 6.15pm ODEON MEZZANINE

ODEON MEZZANINE
(08705-050007) & Leicester Square
A Bug's Life 2.25pm, 4.30pm,
6.35pm, 8.40pm Don't Go
Breaking My Heart 2.15pm,
4.20pm, 6.30pm, 8.40pm Elizabeth
12.35pm, 3.05pm, 5.35pm, 8.20pm
Lock, Stock & Two Smoking
Barrets 1.25pm, 3.55pm, 6.20pm,
8.45pm Stepmom 12.30pm,
3.05pm, 5.45pm, 8.25pm **ODEON SWISS COTTAGE**

Obeon swiss cottage
(08705-050007) © Swiss Cottage
Arlington Road 12.30pm, 3.05pm,
5.40pm, 8.20pm Patch Adams
1pm, 6pm Shakespeare in Love
12.15pm, 3pm, 5.45pm, 8.25pm,
The Thin Red Line 12.35pm,
4.05pm, 7.45pm Waking Ned
12.20pm, 2.30pm, 4.35pm,
6.45pm, 8.55pm You've Got M@il
3.30pm, 8.30pm

ODEON WEST END PEPSI IMAX CINEMA

(0171-494 4153) & Piccadilly Circus Everest 4.45pm, 8.05pm LS - The First City in Space (3-D) 2.40pm, 7pm 7-Resc Back to the Cretaceous (3-D) 1.35pm, 3.40pm, 5.45pm, 8pm, 10.05pm PLAZA

PLAZA
(0990-888990) © Piccadilly Circus
Arlington Road 12.30pm, 3.15pm,
6pm, 8.45pm A Night at the
Roxbury 1.45pm, 4pm, 6.30pm,
9pm Pleasantville 12.15pm, 3pm,
8.30pm The Rugrats Movie
12noon, 2pm Saving Private Ryan
4.15pm, 7.45pm RENOIR

(0171-837 8402) @ Russell Square Aprile 1.50pm, 4.10pm, 6.40pm, 8.30pm Central Station 1.35pm, 3.55pm, 6.25pm, 8.45pm

RITZY CINEMA
(0171-733 2229) BR/© Brixton
Central Station 4.15pm, 9.15pm
La Classe de Neige 2.45pm
Pleasantville 1.50pm, 5.40pm
Seul Contre Tous 4.45pm,
9.20pm Shakespeare in Love
6.55pm The Thin Red Line
3.40pm, 7.05pm This Year's Love
4.20pm, 9.10pm La Vita è Bella
1.45pm, 6.35pm Waking Ned
3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm

(0171-935 2772) & Baker Street Festen 3.35pm, 6.35pm, 8.50pm Walding Ned 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm SCREEN ON THE GREEN (0171-226 3520) ↔ Angel Waking Ned 2.30pm, 4.40pm, 6.50pm, 9pm

SCREEN ON BAKER STREET

SCREEN ON THE HILL

UCI WHITELEYS

VIRGIN CHELSEA VIRIGIN CHEISSEA (0870-907 0710) → Sloane Square Pleasantville 12.30pm, 3.15pm, 6pm, 8.50pm The Thin Red Line 1pm, 4.30pm, 8pm La Vitz è Bella 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm Waking Ned 12.45pm, 2.50pm, 4.55pm, 7.15pm, 9.30pm 4.55pm, 7.15pm, 9.30pm

Virgin fulham road (0870-907 0711) — South Kensington Arlington Road 1.50pm, 4.10pm, 6.40pm, 9.10pm Central Station 1.40pm, 4pm, 7pm Hideous Kinty 9.10pm Little Voice 9.30pm Patch Adams 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 6.20pm Shakespeare In June 1.2 50pm, 3.20pm, 6.10pm Jungari, G.Zupm Snäkespeare in Lowe 12.50pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 8.50pm The Thin Red Line 1.20pm, 5pm, 8.30pm You've Got M@W 1pm, 3.40pm, 6.20pm, 9.20pm

VIRGIN HAYMARKET

(0870-907 0712) & Piccadilly Circus Pleasantville 3pm, 6pm, Circus Pleasantville 3pm, 6pm, 8.45pm La Vita è Bella 3.30pm, 6.15pm, 9pm You've Got M@ll 2pm, 4.45pm, 7.45pm VIRGIN TROCADERO (0870-907 0716) & Piccadilly Circus Artington Road 12.15pm, 2.50pm, 5.30pm, 8.30pm A Bug's Life 1pm, 3.10pm, 5.20pm Enemy of the State 2.50pm, Life 1pm, 3 of Enemy of the State 8.30pm A Night at the Resoury 12.30pm, 2.40pm, 5pm, 7.15pm, 9.20pm Patch Adams 12.20pm, 3pm, 5.50pm, 8.40pm Shakespeare in Love 12noon. 2.40pm. 5.30pm, 8.20pm Urban Legend 12.50pm, 3.30pm. 6.10pm. 8.40pm Vou've Got M@8 12.10pm. 2.50pm, 5.40pm. 8.50pm WARNER VILLAGE WEST END

WARNER VILLAGE WEST END (0171-437 4343) — Lecester Square Arlington Road 12/noor. 3pm, 6pm, 8.50pm Beloved 120pm, 450pm, 8.50pm ABeloved 120pm, 450pm, 2.15pm, 4.25pm, 6.40pm The Opposite of Sex 12.40pm, 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm Pleasantwille 1pm, 3.30pm, 6.20pm, 9.10pm This Year's Love 9pm Urban Legend 11.55am, 2.10pm, 4.30pm, 6.50pm, 9.30pm Kery Bad Things 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 8.55pm 1.30pm. 4pm. 6.30pm. 8.55pm You've Got M@i 12.10pm. 1.05pm. 2.50pm. 3.50pm. 5.40pm. 6.25pm. 8.30pm. 9.20pm

> CINEMA LONDON LOCALS

PARK ROYAL WARNER VILLAGE (0181-896 0066) © Park Royal Artington Road 1.30pm, 4.10pm, 7pm, 9.50pm Beloved 6.40pm A Bug's Life 1.50pm, 4.10pm, 6.20pm, 8.40pm Patch Adams 1pm, 3.40pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm Pleasantville 2.40pm, 5.40pm, 8.50pm Shakespeare in Love 1.50pm, 4.50pm, 7.30pm, 10pm The Thin Red Line 2pm, 5.30pm, 9pm Urban Legend 1.40pm, 4.20pm, 10.10pm Waking Ned 2.50pm, 5.10pm, 7.20pm, 9.30pm You've Got M@il 1.20pm, 4.10pm, 6.50pm, 9.20pm PARK ROYAL WARNER VILLAGE

6.50pm, 9.20pm BARNET
ODEON (08705-050007) & High
Barnet Arlington Road 1.15pm,
3.30pm, 6.25pm, 8.45pm A Bug's
Life 2.30pm, 4.30pm Patch Adams
1.30pm, 3.45pm, 6.35pm, 8.50pm
Pleasantville 1.15pm, 3.45pm,
6.15pm, 8.45pm Shakespeare in
Love 6.20pm, 8.40pm Waking Ned
1.10pm, 3rm, 5.10pm, 7cm, 9.15pm 1.10pm, 3pm, 5.10pm, 7pm, 9.15pm

ABC (0870-902 0412) BR: Beckenham Junction A Bug's Life 3.50pm Lock, Stock and Two Smoking Barrels 11.20am, 6pm Patch Adams 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm Shakespeare In Love 1pm, 5.55pm, 8.30pm

BEXLEYHEATH CINEWORLD (0181-303 1550) BR:

Bexleyheath Arlington Road 1.30pm, 4.05pm, 6.40pm, 9.10pm A Bug's Life 1.10pm, 3.20pm, 5.30pm, 7.40pm Patch Adams 2.25pm, 4.50pm, 7.20pm, 9.45pm Pleasantville 1.40pm, 4.20pm. 7.05pm. 9.40pm Saving Private Ryan 12.45pm. 4pm. 8pm Shakespeare in Love 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm The Thin Red Line 1,25pm, 4.55pm, 8.10pm This Year's Love 9.40pm Waking Ned 4.05pm, 6.05pm, 8.05pm, 10.05pm You've Got M@il 12.25pm, 2.50pm, 5.10pm, 7.30pm, 9.50pm, 12.15am

ODEON (08705 050007) BR: Brom-North/Bromley South A Bug's e 1.05pm, 3.20pm Parch Adams 12.50pm, 3.30pm, 6.05pm, 8.40pm Pleasantville 5.30pm The Thin Red Line 12.40, 4.10pm, 7.40pm Waking Ned 2.10pm. 4.25pm, 6.40pm. 8.55pm You've Got M@B 8.30pm

CATEORD ABC (0181-461 1278) BR: Catford Patch Adams 5.20pm, 8.20pm The Thin Red Line 3pm, 7.30pm

CROYDON CLOCKTOWER (0181-253 1030) BR: West/East Croydon Central Station 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm (+ short) SAFARI (688 3422) BR: West Croydon, Lat Baadstah 8.15pm A Night at the Roxbury 5.30pm, 8.20pm The Thin Red Line Spm, 8.10pm

WARNER VILLAGE (0181-680 8090) BR: East Croydon Arlington Road 1.20pm, 4pm, 6.40pm, 9.30pm A Bug's Life 1.10pm, 3.30pm, 6pm Patch Adams 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 8.50pm Pleas-antville 1.30pm, 4.20pm, 7.15pm, 9.55pm Shakesteeps in Love 1pm 9.55pm Shakespeare in Love 1pm, 3.50pm, 6.50pm, 9.40pm The Thin Red Line 1.40pm, 5.05pm, 8.25pm Waking Ned 2.20pm, 4.40pm 7pm, 9.15pm You've Got M@fl 12.50pm, 3.40pm, 6.20pm, 9pm

WARNER VILLAGE (592 2020) O Dagenham Heathway Arlington Road 1.40pm, 4.10pm, 6.40pm, 9.20pm A Bug's Life 2.40pm, 4.50pm, 7pm, 9.10pm Patch Adams 2pm, 4.20pm, 7.05pm, 9.30pm Pleasantville 1.50pm, 4.30pm, 7.10pm Shakespeare in Love 5.50pm, 8.30pm The Thin Red Line 1.55pm, 5.20pm, 8.40pm This Year's Love 9.50pm Urban Legend 2.50pm, 5.05pm, 7.20pm, 9.40pm Walking Ned 2.30pm, 4.40pm, 6.50pm, 8.50pm You've Got M@II 1.30pm. 4pm, 6.30pm, 9pm

Pul Tallor

3 20pm, 7.40pm BELLE-VUE (0181-381 2556) & Edgware As Ab Laut Chalen phone for times Arzoo phone for times Kachche Dhaage phone for times Kuch Kuch Hota Hai phone for times Laa Warls phone for times Madeline 6pm You've Got M@II

EALING VIRGIN UXBRIDGE ROAD (0870-

9070719) BR-O Ealing Broadway Arlington Road 3pm, 5.40pm, 8.20pm Patch Adams 2.30pm,

20pm, 8 40pm The Thin Red Une

EDMONTON LEE VALLEY UCI 12 (0990-888990)

LEE VALLEY UCI 12 (0990-888990)

Dittenham Hale Arlington Road phone for times Beloved 8.20pm, 11.50pm A Bug's Life 12.40pm, 11.5pm, 2pm, 3pm, 3.45pm, 4.20pm, 5.15pm, 6pm 6.30pm, 8.10pm, Enemy of the State 12.10am How Stella Got Her Groove Back 9.40pm, 12.20am A Night at the Roadury 1.30pm, 9.35pm, 5.30pm, 7.30pm, 8.30pm, 9.55pm, 10.45pm Patch Adams 12.50pm, 3.30pm, 6.15pm, 9.20pm Pleasantville 6.45pm Rush Hour 11pm Shakespeare in Love 1.10pm, 4.10pm, 6.50pm, 9.40pm The Thin Red Line 12.50pm, 4.15pm, 8pm, 11.30pm This Year's Love 8pm, 11,30pm This Year's Love 10pm Urban Legend 8.40pm, 11.15pm La Vita è Bella 1.40pm, 4.40pm, 7.20pm Waking Ned 12.10pm, 2.20pm, 4.45pm, 7.10pm. 9.25pm, 11.40pm You've Got M@II 12.20pm, 2.50pm, 6.10pm, 8.50pm

CORONET (0171-703 4968) & Elephant and Castle Patch Adams 3.40pm, 6.05pm, 8.30pm The Thin Red Line 3.30pm, 7.35pm Urban Legend 3.45pm, 6pm, 8.40pm

FELTHAM CINEWORLD THE MOVIES (0181-

867 05551 BR: Feltham Aa Ab Laut Chalen 2.30pm, 9.30pm Arlington Road 11.20am, 1.50pm, 4.30pm, 7.05pm, 9.40pm Arzoo 11am, 1pm, 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm A Bug's Life 11.10am, 1.20pm, 3.30pm, 6pm Kachche Dhaage 11.30am, 6.15pm Laa Warls 2.30pm, 9.15pm Lal Laa Warts 2.30pm, 9.15pm Lai Badshah 6.20pm, 11.20pm A Night at the Rodoury Bpm, 10pm Patch Adams 11.30am, 2pm, 4.30pm, 7.10pm, 9.50pm Pleasantville 11.10am, 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.40pm, 9.20pm Saving Private Ryan 1.30pm, 5.10pm, 8.40pm Shake-speare in Love 1pm, 3.40pm 1.30pm, 5.10pm, 8.40pm Shake-speare in Love 1pm, 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.50pm The Thin Red Line 11am, 6.10pm, 9.30pm This Year's Love 2.10pm, 7.10pm Urban Legend 11.30am, 4.40pm, 9.40pm Waking Ned 12.30pm, 2.30pm, 4.30pm, 6.50pm, 9pm You've Got M@II 1.20pm, 4.10pm, 6.40pm, 9.20pm

FINCHLEY ROAD WARNER VILLAGE (0171-604 WARNER VILLAGE (0171-004 3110) & Finchley Road Arlington Road 1.15pm. 4pm, 6.45pm. 9.30pm A Bug's Life 1.30pm, 9.30pm 6.10pm, 8.20pm Patch Adams 12.30pm, 3.10pm, 5.50pm. 8.25pm Pleasantville 1.25pm 4.20pm, 7.10pm, 9.50pm Shake-4.20pm, 7.10pm, 9.50pm Shake-speare in Love 1pm, 3.50pm, 6.35pm, 9.20pm The Thin Red Line 1.20pm, 5pm, 8.40pm This Year's Love 10.25pm Waking Ned 12 40pm, 2.55pm, 5.15pm, 7.30pm, 9.40pm You've Got M@il 12.55pm, 3.40pm, 6.20pm, 9pm

GOLDERS GREEN ABC (0181-455 1724) + Golders Green Patch Adams 2.45pm,

GREENWICH CRIEMA (0181-293 0101) BR: Greenwich Arlington Road 4pm, 6.30pm, 9pm Pleasantville 3.30pm, 6.05pm, 8.40pm The Thin Red Line 4.30pm, 8pm

5.45pm, 8.20pm

HAMMERSMITH VIRGIN (0870-907 0718) - Ravenscourt Park/Hammersmith A Bug's Life 12.30pm, 3pm Shakespeare in Love 12.50pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 9pm The Thin Red Line 1pm, 4.30pm, 8pm Waking Ned 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 6.20pm, 9pm You've Got M@lf 1pm, 3.40pm, 6.15pm, 8.50pm

HAMPSTEAD ABC (0870-902 0413) ← Belsize Park A Bug's Life 1.10pm Patch Adams 2.15pm, 5.30pm, 8.30pm Saving Private Ryan 2.45pm. 7.35pm Shakespeare in Love 2.35pm, 5.15pm, 8.15pm HARROW

SAFARI CINEMA (0181-426 0303) Harrow-on-the-Hill/Harrow & Baadshah 1.30pm, 5pm, 8.45pm HARROW WARNER VILLAGE (0181-427 9009) ← Harrow-on-the-

SIDCUP

Hill Arlington Road 11.20am, 2.20pm, 5.40pm, 8.50pm A Bug's Life 11am, 1.40pm, 4.10pm, 6.35pm Patch Adams 1pm, 3.50pm, 6.50pm, 9.30pm Pleas-anceille 12.50pm, 4pm, 7pm. 9.40pm Shakespeare in Love 12,40pm, 3.20pm, 6pm, 8.40pm

TOM LI BROWN The Thin Red Line Jum. 5 50pm 9.10pm This Year's Love 11 30am. 2.10pm, 7.10pm Urban Legend 4.50pm, 9.50pm Waking Ned 11.10am, 1.20pm, 3.60pm, 6.10pm.

8.30pm You've Got Might 12 30pm

3 30pm, 6.20pm, 9pm

HOLLOWAY

ODEON (08705-050007) • Holloway Road Archway Arlington Road 12 40pm, 3 20pm, upm 8 40pm Beloved 4 15pm, 7,45pm A Brook 146 1 mm. 8 dupm Betoved 4 15pm. 7.45pm.
A Bug's Life 1pm Patch Adams
1pm, 3 35pm, 6 10pm, 8 45pm
Pleasantville 3.20pm. 8 30pm
Shakespeare in Love 12.25pm. 8.20pm Zakhm phone for times

515 Style 12.45pm, 5 Style 12.45pm, 5 Style 12.45pm, 4.20pm, 7.50pm This Year's Love 12.55pm, 7.50pm Waking Ned 12.30pm, 2.40pm, 4.50pm, 7pm, 9.10pm You've Got M@ll 12.40pm, 3.20pm, 6pm, 8.40pm

ILFORD ODEON (08705-050002) & Grats ODEON (08705-051007) & Gants Hill A Bug's Life 1pm, 3.15pm Left Luggage 12.35pm, 2.35pm, 4.35pm, 6.35pm, 8.35pm Patch Adams 12.30pm, 3.10pm, 5.50pm, 8.30pm Shakespeare In Love 5.40pm, 8.20pm The Thin Red Line 12.40pm, 4.05pm, 7.30pm Waking Ned 12noon, 2.10pm, 4.30pm, 6.40pm, 8.55pm KINGSTON

ABC OPTIONS (0870-902 0409) BR: Kingston Elizabeth 2.10pm, 5.20pm, 8.05pm Patch Adams 2.30pm, 5.40pm, 8.20pm Shake-5.20pm, 8.05pm

MUSWELL HILL ODEON (08705-050007) ← Highgare A Bug's Life 2pm, 4pm Little Voice 6.45pm Patch Adams 1pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm The Thin Red Line 1.25pm, 4.35pm, 7.50pm You've Got M@tl 8 40pm

PREMIER (0181-235 3006) BR: Peckham Rye Arlington Road 4.25pm, 6.50pm, 9 15pm Beloved 5.10pm, 8.30pm A Bug's Life Back 9.50pm, 12midnight A Night at the Roxbury 5.25pm, 7.20pm, 9.20pm Patch Adams 3.10pm Pleasantville 2.35pm, 5pm, Pleasantville 2.35pm, 5pm, 7.25pm The Thin Red Line 4.55pm, 8.20pm Waking Ned 3.15pm, 5.15pm, 7.15pm, 9.25pm

PURLEY ABC (0870-902 0407) BR: Purley Arlington Road 5.10pm, 8pm Patch Adams 5.40pm, 8.20pm The Thin Red Line 7.10pm

PUTNEY

ABC (0870-902 0401) BR: Putney Putney Bridge. Patch Adams 2.15pm, 5.30pm, 8.15pm Shakespeare in Love 2.15pm, 5.30pm, 8.15pm You've Got M@ii 2.15pm, 5.15pm, 8.15pm RICHMOND ODEON (08705-050007) BR &

Richmond Shakespeare in Love 12.30pm, 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 9pm

The Thin Red Line 1pm, 4 30pm,

8.10pm Waking Ned 1.30pm, 4pm, 7pm, 9.30pm **ODEON STUDIO (08705-050007)** BR/G Richmond Arlington Road 1.50pm, 4.20pm, 6.50pm, 9.20pm A Bug's Life 2.10pm, 4.10pm Patch Adams 1pm, 3.40pm, 6.20pm, 9.10pm 6.30pm, 9.10pm Pleasantville 6.20pm, 9pm You've Got M@R 1pm, 3.50pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm

ABC (0870-902 0419) BR: Romford Arlington Road 2.10pm, 5.40pm, 8.20pm Patch Adams 2.20pm, 5.25pm, 8.10pm Pleas-antville 2.25pm, 8.15pm You've Got M@II 5.30pm

ROMFORD ODEON LIBERTY 2 (08705-050007) BR: Romford Arlington Road 12.40pm, 3.20pm, 5.50pm, 8.20pm A Bug's Life 12.05pm, 2.20pm, 4.40pm, 6.45pm, 8.50pm A Night at the Roxbury 12.15pm, 3.20pm, 5.20pm, 7.20pm, 9.20pm Patch Adams 12.45pm, 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 8.35pm Pleasantville 12.45pm, 6.20pm, 5.20pm, 5.20pm, 6.20pm, 5.20pm, 5.20pm, 6.20pm, 5.20pm, 5.20 6.20pm Shakespeare in Love 12.30pm, 3pm, 5.40pm, 8.15pm The Thin Red Line 1pm, 4.15pm, 7.30pm Waking Ned 12.15pm, 2.25pm, 4.30pm, 6.35pm, 8.50pm You've Got M@II 3.30pm, 8.45pm

ABC (0541-555131) BR: Sidcup Patch Adams 5.20pm, 8.20pm The Thin Red Line 7.30pm STAPLES CORNER

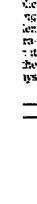
VIRGIN (0870-907 0717) BR: Cricklewood Arlington Road 1pm. 3.45pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm Elizabeth 2.30pm, 5.30pm, 8.30pm Shakespeare in Love 3.10pm, 6pm, 8.50pm The Thin Red Line 1,15pm, 4,45pm, 8,20pm Waking Ned 2pm, 4,15pm, 6,20pm, 8,45pm You've Got M@II

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STRATFORD NEW STRATFORD PICTURE HOUSE (0181-555 3366) BR/O Stratford Ar-lington Road 3.55pm, 6.25pm, 8.55pm A Bug's Life 1.30pm Patch Adams 3.15pm, 8.20pm Pleas-antwike 3.15pm, 8.20pm The Thin Red Line 1.15pm, 4.35pm, 8pm Waking Ned 2.15pm, 4.25pm, 6.45pm, 9.10pm

STREATHAM

ABC (0870-9020415) BR: Streatham Hill A Night at the Roxbury 2.30pm, 4.30pm, 6.30pm, 8.35pm Patch Adams 2.15pm, 5.45pm, 8.20pm Shakespeare in Love 2.25pm. 5.35pm, 8.25pm

ODEON (087050-050007) BR: Streatharn Hill/O Brixton A Bug's Life 12.10pm, 2.10pm, 4.10pm, 6.20pm 54 12.40pm, 2.40pm, 4.50pm, 6.50pm, 8.50pm How Stella Got Her Groove Back 6.05pm, 8.35pm Pleasantville 3.10pm, 8.30pm The Thin Red Line 12,40cm, 4,10cm. 7.40pm Waking Ned 1.40pm, 4pm, 6.20pm, 8.40pm You've Got M@il 12.40pm, 5.50pm

SURREY QUAYS UCI (0990-888990) & Surrey Quays

Arlington Road 1pm, 3.45pm, 6.20pm, 9.20pm, 11.45pm A Bug's 6.20pm, 9.20pm, 11.45pm A Sug's Life 12.30pm, 2.30pm, 4.30pm, 6.30pm A Night at the Rowbury 2.10pm, 4.30pm, 6.40pm 8.55pm, 9.30pm, 11.30pm Patch Adams 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.50pm, 9.30pm, 11.50pm Pleasantville 12.15pm, 5.40pm Shakespeare in Love 3.45pm, 6.40pm, 9.40pm The Thin Red Line 12.40pm, 4.15pm, 8.10pm This Year's Love 8.30pm, 11.30pm Urban Legend 8.30pm, 9.30pm. 12midnight Waking Ned 12noon, 2.15pm, 4.15pm, 7.10pm, 9.40pm, 12midnight You've Got M@il 1pm. 6.10pm, 8.40pm, 11.30pm

UCI 6 (0990-888990) BR: Sutton/O Morden The Acid House 6.15pm Ariington Road 1.30pm. 4.15pm, 7pm, 9.45pm Patch Adams 12.15pm, 3.30pm, 6.30pm, 9.15om Shakespeare In Love 12.45pm, 3.45pm, 6.45pm, 9.30pm The Thin Red Line 1pm, 4.30pm, 8pm Waking Ned 12.30pm, 3pm, 6pm, 8.30pm You've Got M@il 9pm

WARNER VILLAGE (0181-446 9344) ← East Finchley/Finchley Central Arlington Road 12.40pm, 3.40pm, 6.20pm, 9.10pm A Bug's Life 1.10pm, 3.30pm Patch Adams 1.40pm. 4.20pm. 7pm, 9.45pm Pleasantville 1.20pm. 4pm. 6.50pm, 9.30pm Shakespeare in Love 1.30pm. 4.10pm. 6.55pm, 9.40pm The Thin Red Line 1.05pm. 4.50pm, 8.30pm Urban Legend 8.40pm La Vita è Beila 5.50pm Waking Ned 1.10pm, 3.20pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm You've Got M@I 1pm, 3.50pm, 6.40pm, 9.20pm

TURNPIKE LANE CORONET (0181-888 2519) @ Turnpike Lane. Patch Adams 3.40pm, 6.05pm, 8.30pm This Year's Love 4.05pm, 6.15pm, 8.40pm Urban Legend 3.45pm, 6pm, 8.40pm

ODEON (08705 050007) ⊕ Usbridge Arlington Road 1.10pm, 3.35pm. 6pm, 8.30pm A Bug's Life 1.10pm, 3.15pm Patch Adams 5.30pm, 8.35pm

WALTHAMSTOW

stow Central The Mighty 8.25pm A Night at the Roxbury 1.25pm. 3.55pm, 6.05pm, 8.40pm Patch Adams 2.15pm, 5.15pm Shakespeare in Love 2.10pm, 5.15pm, WALTON

THE SCREEN (01932-252825) BR: Walton-on-Thames Elizabeth 2.15pm La Vita è Bella 3.25pm, 6pm. 8.30pm Waking Ned 4.45pm. **WELL HALL**

CORONET (0181-850 3351) BR:

Eltham Pleasantville 5.35pm, 8.20pm The Thin Red Line 3.30pm, 7.35pm WILLESDEN

BELLE-VUE (0181-830 0822) & Willesden Green Madeline 4.45pm speare in Love 6.30pm, 9pm

ODEON (08705-050007) BR/O-Wintbledon/O South Wimbledon Antz 11am A Bug's Life 1.10pm Elizabeth 11am Lock, Stock and Two Smok-

ing Barrels 11am Out of Sight am Patch Adams 2.45pm, 5.50pm. 8.30pm Pleasantville 3.30pm, 8.25pm Shakespeare in Love 2.55pm, 5.45pm, 8.25pm The Thin 2.30pm, 5.43pm, 6.23pm rise rise Red Line 12.50pm, 4.10pm, 7.40pm The Truman Show 11am Walding Ned 2.30pm, 4.35pm, 6.45pm, 8.55pm You've Got M@H 1.10pm, 6.05pm WOODFORD

ABC (0181-989 3463) + South Woodford Artington Road 2.45pm, 5.30pm, 8.15pm Parch Adams 5.50pm, 8.20pm Shakespeare in Love 2.40pm, 5.30pm, 8.10pm

MOOLWICH CORONET (0181-854 5043) BR: Woolwich Arsenal Arlington Road 3.15pm. 6pm. 8.35pm Patch Adams 3.40pm, 6.05pm, 8.30pm

CINEMA REPERTORY

CINE LUMIERE Queensberry Place. SW7 (0171-838 2144) Conte d'Ete

ICA The Mall, SW1 (0171-930 3647) Al Massir - Le Destin (NC) 6pm. 8.30pm Modulations (NC) 6.30pm, 8.45pm NATIONAL FILM THEATRE South

Bank, SE1 (0171-928 3232) Fire (15) 2.30pm Love Affair/The Menace: Anything Goes (NC) 6pm Africa, My Africa: Cries of the Heart (NC) 6.15pm Comedy Dra-ma: Television (NC) 7.30pm Brief SHOWCASE (0118-974 7711): Arlington Road (15); A Bug's Life (U): Little Voice (15); Madeline (U): A Night at the Roobury (15): Moment/Virtue: Anything Goes (NC) 8.30pm Body Politics Part Two: The Masculine: Avant Garde (12); Saving Private Ryan (15); Showcase (NC) 8.40pm Shakespeare in Love (15); The Thin Red Line (15); This Year's Love (18); Urban Legend (18); Waking Ned

PHOENIX High Road N2 (0181-444 6789) Festen (15) 1.15pm, 3.35pm, 8.45pm La Vita è Bella (PG) 6.05pm

PRINCE CHARLES Leicester Place. WC2 (0171-437 8181) As Good As It Gets (15) 1.15pm Pecker (18) ipm Antz (PG) 6.35pm Lolita

(18) 8.55pm THE PULLMAN EVERYMAN HOLD Bush Vale, NW3 (0171-606 2345) La Vita è Bella (PG) 3.30pm. 6.10pm The Misfits: Introduced by

JM Coetzee (PG) 8.45pm RIVERSIDE STUDIOS CINEMA Crisp Road, W6 (0171-420 0100) Before the Revolution (15) 6.30pm

+ The Conformist 8.45pm WATERMANS ARTS CENTRE High Street, Brentford (0181-568 1176) Waking Ned (PG) 5pm, 9pm The Opposite of Sex (18) 7pm

DUKE OF YORK'S CINEMA (01273-602503) Classe de Nelge (NC) 2.30pm Dobermann (18) 4.30pm, 8.45pm Dance Me to My Song (NC) 6.30pm π (PI) (15) 6.30pm, 8.30pm

WATERSHED (0117-925 3845) Central Station (15) 6pm Dober-mann (18) 6.10pm, 8.30pm The Opposite of Sex (18) 8.40pm

CAMBRIDGE ARTS CINEMA (01223-504444) Central Station (15) 12.45pm, 7.10pm Aprile (12) 3pm, 9.20pm-La Vie Revée des Anges (18) 5pm

CHAPTER ARTS CENTRE (01222) 399666) Secret Défense (PG) 7pm Hideous Kinky (15) 8pm

NEW PARK FILM CENTRE (01243 786650) Shakespeare in Love (15) 1,15pm, 9pm Elizabeth (15) 3.45pm The Opposite of Sex (18) 6.30pm

IPSWICH

FILM THEATRE (01473-215544) Sense and Sensibility (U) 2.30pmTi-tanic Town (15) 6pm, 8.15pm La Vita è Bella (PG) 6.15pm, 8.30pm

PHOENIX ARTS (0116-255 4854)

The Apple (Sib) (PG) 6.15pm π (PI) (15) 8.30pm NORWICH

CINEMA CITY (01603-622047) Hideous Kinky (15) 2.30pm. 8.15pm La Vita è Bella (PG)

PLYMOUTH ARTS CENTRE (01752-206114) x (PI) (15) 8pm

CINEMA COUNTRYWIDE

VIRGIN (0541-555145); Arlington Road (15); A Bug's Life (U); Eliz-abeth (15); Madeline (U); The Parent Trap (PG); Patch Adams (12); Payback (18); Pleasantville (12) The Rugrats Movie (U); Saving Prithe rugrats movie (0); Saving Private Ryan (15); Shakespeare in Love (15); The Thin Red Line (15); This Year's Love (18); Waking Ned (PG); You've Got M@if (PG)

BRISTOL CINEWORLD THE MOVIES (01275-831099): Aarzoo (PG); Affliction (15); Arlington Road (15); A Bug's Life (U): Elizabeth (15); Jack Frost (PG): Litzabeth (15): Jack Prost (PG): Little Voice (15): Madeline (U): A Night at the Roxbury (15): Patch Adams (12): Payback (18): Pleas-antville (12): The Rugars Movie (U): Saving Private Ryan (15): The Se-cret Garden (U): Shakespeare in Love (15): The Swan Princess (U): The Thir Back I wan Princess (U): The Thin Red Line (15): This Year's Love (18): Urban Legend (18): La Vita e Bella (PG) Waking Ned (PG): You've Got M@il (PG)

SHOWCASE (0117-972 3800); Arlington Road (15); A Bug's Life (U); Little Voice (15); Madeline (U); A Night at the Roxbury (15); Patch Adams (12); Pleasantville (12): Shakespeare in Love (15); The Thin Red Line (15); This Year's Love (18): The Truman Show (PG); Urban Leg-end (18); Very Bad Things (18); Waking Ned (PG); You've Got M@II (PG)

IPSWICH ODEON (08705-050007); Antz (PG): A Bug's Life (U); Jack Frost (PG): Patch Adams (12); Payback (18): Pleasantville (12): Small Sol-diers (PG): The Truman Show (PG): Velvet Goldmine (18): Wakng Ned (PG); You've Got M@E (PG)

LEICESTER WARNER VILLAGE (0116-282 7733): Arlington Road (15): A Bug's Life (U); Elizabeth (15): Flubber (U); Jack Frost (PG); Little Voice (15); Madeline (U); Patch Adams (12): Payback (18): Pleas-antville (12): The Rugrats Movie (U): Shakespeare in Love (15); The Thin Red Line (15): This Year's Love

(18); Urban Legend (18); Waking Ned (PG); You've Got M@il (PG) MORWICH ABC CINEMA (01603-6233121: Antz (PG); A Bug's Life (U); Jack Frost (PG); A Night at the Roxbury (15); The Parent Trap (PG); Patch Adams (12); The Rugrats Movie

(U): Shakespeare in Love (15): Star Trek: Insurrection (PG): Waking Ned (PG) OXFORD ABC GEORGE STREET (01865-

ch Adams (12); Pleas

(PG); You've Got M@il (PG)

ODEON LEISURE WORLD (01703-

222111): Artington Road (15): Babe: Pig in the City (U): Blade (18): A Bug's Life (I): Dr Dolittle (PG): Enemy of the State (15): Jack Frost (PG): Little Voice (15):

Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Bar-rels (18): Madeline (U); Mulan (U):

A Night at the Roxbury (15): Patch Adams (12); Payback (18):

Pleasantville (12): The Rugrats
Movie (U): Saving Private Ryan
(15): Shakespeare in Love (15):
Small Soldiers (PG): Star Trek: Insurrection (PG): There's Something

About Mary (15); The Thin Red Line (15); This Year's Love (18); Urban

Legend (18); Very Bad Things (18); Waking Ned (PG); You've

Got M@il (PG)

SOUTHAMPTON

251998): Arlington Road (15): Patch Adams (12): The Rugrats Movie (U): The Thin Red Line (15): You've Got M@il (PG) ABC MAGDALEN STREET (01865-

251998); A Bug's Life (U): Shake speare in Love (15) **PORTSMOUTH** ABC CINEMA (01705-823538); A Night at the Roxbury (15); Patch Adams (12); The Rugrats Movie (U); Saving Private Ryan (15); Shakespeare in Love (15)

W1 (0171-447 5400) → Leic Sq/Tott Ct Rd. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [5][7] 3pm. £15-£35. UCI 6 (0870-603 4567); 54 (15); The Acid House (18): Arlington Road (15): A Bug's Life (U): Elizabeth (15): Madeline (U): Patch Adams (12): The Rugrats Movie (U): Shakespeare in Love (15); There's Something About Mary (15); The Thin Red Line (15); Waking Ned

(PG): You've Got M@il (PG) READING ODEON (08705-050007); Arlington Road (15); Babe: Pig in the City (U); A Bug's Life (U); Madeline (U); The Parent Trap (PG); Payback (18); Pleasantville (12); Small Soldiers (PG); The Thin Red Line (15)

2.30pm. £7-£35. 195 mins.

Christie's evergreen whodunnit St Martin's West Street, WC2 (0171-836 1443) & Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 8.00pm, [3] 2.45pm, [7] 5pm, £10-£24.50, 135 mlns.

 OKLAHOMA! Maureen Lipn stars in the National's acclaimed production of Rodgers and Hammerstein's cowboy versus farmhand musical. Lyceum W ton Street, WC2 (0870-606 3446)

OTHE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA Andrew Lloyd Webber's Gothic musical Her Majesty's Haymarket. SW1 (0171-494 5400/cc 344 4444) ◆ Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.45pm. [4][7] 3pm. £10-£35. 150 mins.

THEATRE WEST END

Ticket availability details are for to-day, times and prices for the week; running times include intervals.

— Seats at all prices b — Seats at some prices O — Returns only Matiness — [1]: Sun, [3]: Tue, [4]: Wed, [5]: Thur, [6]: Fri, [7]: Sat

● AMADEUS David Suchet stars as Salieri in Peter Shaffer's acclaimed drama. Old Vic The Cut, SE1 (0171-494 5372/cc 494 5372) BR/O Waterioo, Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4] 2.30pm, [7] 3pm, £7.50-£30, 180 mins.

 ANIMAL CRACKERS Stage version of the Marx Brothers' classic from the Royal Exchange The atre. Lyric Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5045) & Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [4][7] 3pm, £9.50-£30.

ART Tom Mannion, Danny Webb. and Gary Olsen in Yasmina Reza's comedy about art and friendship. Wyndham's Charing Cross Road. WC2 (0171-369 1736/cc 867 1111) - Leic Sq. Tue-Sat 8pm, [4] 3.00pm. [7][1] 5.pm. £9.50-£27.50. 90 mirs.

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST Lavish family musical based on Dis-ney's cartoon version of the favourite fairy-tale. Dominion Tottenham Court Road, Wi (0171-656 1888) & Tott Ct Rd. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 2.30pm, £18.50-£35, 150 mins.

● BLOOD BROTHERS Willy Rus-■ BLOOD BROTHERS Willy Rissell's long-running Liverpool musical melodrama. Phoenix Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1733) ♦ Le-k Sq. Mon-Sat 7.45pm. [5] 3pm, [7] 4pm. £11.50-£32.50. 165 mins.

BUDDOY Musical biog-show tracing the brief life of Buddy Holly. Scrand Aldwych, WC2 (0171-930 8800)
 Covent Garden/Charing X. Tue-Thur 8pm, Fri 5.30pm & 8.30pm, Sat 5pm & 8.30pm, mats [1] 4pm. £10-£30, half price Fri mats. 160 mins.

D CATS Lloyd Webber's musical version of TS Eliot's poems. New London Parker Street, WC2 (0171-405 0072/cc 404 4079) & Covent Gar-[3][7] 3pm. £10.50-£35. 165 mins.

) CHICAGO Maria Friedman and Nicola Davies star in this hit Broad-way musical, Adelphi Maiden Lane, WC2 (0171-344 0055) ← Charling X. Mon-Sat 8pm, [4][7] 3pm. £16-£36 (Incl booking fee). 130 mins. **O** THE COMPLETE HISTORY OF

MERICA (ABRIDGED) Reduced Shakespeare Company's keenity-paced theatrical history lesson. Criterion Piccadilly Circus, W1 (0171-369 1747) & Picc Circ. Tue 8pm. £10-£25. 120 mins. D COPENHAGEN Drama from

Michael Frayn about the discovery of the atom. Duchess Catherine Street. WC2 (0171-494 5075/cc 344 4444) Ovent Garden, Mon-Sat 7.30pm. [5][7] 2.30pm. £10-£30. .145 mins. • DEFENDING THE CAVEMAN Mark Little stars in this witty and wise comedy about the sexes.

Apollo Shaftesbury Avenue. WI (0171-494 5070) ← Picc Circ. Mon-Thur 8pm, Fri-Sat 6pm & 8.45pm. £5-£25, concs available. DR DOLITTLE Philip Schofield talks to the animals in this new stage adap-tation featuring Jim Henson Pup-pets. London Apollo Hammersmith Queen Caroline Street, W6 (0171-416 6022) Hammersmith, Tue-Sat

7.30pm, [4][7] 2.30pm, ends 28 Aug. £12.50-£32.50: 150 mlns. O GOOD Charles Dance in CP Taylor's deceptively humorous drama. Donmar Warehouse Earlham Street, WC2 (0171-369 1732) Covent Garden. Mon-Sat 7.30pm [5][7] 3pm. Tonight 7pm, ends 22 May. £14-£22, concs available.

) GREASE Energetic stage version of the hit film, starring Darren Day. Cambridge Earlham Street, WC2 (0171-494 5080) & Covent Garden. £32.50. 150 mins.

• GROSS INDECENCY: THE THREE TRIALS OF OSCAR WILDE Michael Pennington and William Hoyland in Moses Kaufman's reconstruction of the downfall of the celebrated playwright. Gielgud Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5065) ⊕ Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.45pm.

[4][7] 2.30pm. £7.50-£29.50. AN INSPECTOR CALLS Stephen Daldry's widely-acclaimed produc-tion of JB Priestley's thriller Garrick Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-494 5085) & Lelc Sq. Mon-Fri 7.45pm. Sat 8.15pm, [4] 2.30pm, [7]

5.00pm. £12-£29.50. 110 mins. MACBETH Rufus Sewell and Sally Dexter portray thwarted ambition in Shakespeare's highlycharged Scottish play. Queen's Shaftesbury Avenue, WI (0171-494 5040/cc 344 4444) & Picc Circ.

Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [7] 2.30pm, ends 5 Jun. £10.50-£28.50, 140 mins. MAMMA MIA! New musical abut a mother's reflections on her daugh-ter's impending wedding day ac-companied by Abba's back catalogue. Edward Old Compton Stree (0171-447 5400

• THE MEMORY OF WATER Alison Steadman and Stella Gonet star in this touching comedy about three sisters returning home for

their mother's funeral Vaudeville Strand, WC2 (0171-836 9987) BR/O Charing X. Mon-Sat 8pm. [5][7] 3pm. £8-£27.50. 120 mins.

• LES MISÉRABLES Musical dramatisation of Victor Hugo's masterpiece, set during the French Revolution. Palace Shaftesbury Avenue. WI (0171-434 0909) ◆ Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.30pm. [5][7]

• MISS SAIGON Musical which resets the Madam Butterfly tragedy to Vietnam. Theatre Royal, Drury Lane Catherine Street, WC2 (0171-494 5060) & Covent Garden, Mon-Sat 7.45pm. [4][7] 3pm. £8.50-£35.

● THE MOUSETRAP Agatha

⊕ Charing X, Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 2.30pm, ends 26 Jun. £10-£35. 180 mins.

THE PRISONER OF SECOND AVENUE Richard Dreyfuss and Marsha Mason star in Neil Simon's comedy about a mid-life crisis. Theatre Royal, Haymarket Hay-market, SW1 (0171-930 8800) ◆ Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [4][7]

3pm. £10-£32,50, ● RENT Musical inspired by La Bo-

heme and set in modern day New York. Shaftesbury Shaftesbury Avenue. WC2 (07000-211221) O Holborn. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 3pm, £12.50-£32.50, 160 min DRICHARD III Robert Lindsay stars

as the historical villain. Savoy Strand. W C 2 (0171-836 8888/ cc 836 0479) BR/O Charing X. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [7] 2,30pm, ends 27 Mar. £10-£27.50.

ROYAL NATIONAL THEATRE

● COTTESLOE: Guiding Star Jonathan Harvey's play gives a ten-der account of the life of Hillsborough disaster survivor. In rep. today 2,30pm & 7,30pm, ends 5 Apr. 150 mins. INTTELION: The Colleen Bawn

Dion Boucicanit's drama of love and intrigue across the classes in 19th century Ireland. In rep. tonight 7.30pm. ends 27 Mar. ● LYTTELTON: NT2000: Death Of A Salesman Arthur Miller charts the decline of the American Dream. Tonight 6pm.

OLIVIER: Troilus and Cressida Shakespeare's reinvention of Homer's Greek and Trojan heroes. In rep, tonight 7pm, ends 19 May, 150 mins. Olivier & Lyttleton: £9-£27. Cottesloe: £12-£18. NT2000: £4. concs £3. Day seats from 10am. South Bank. SE1 (0171-452 3000)

ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY THE PIT: Goodnight Children
Everywhere An evacuee returns
home after the war in Richard Nelson's moving drama. In rep, tonight

The picture of the control of the contro 7.15pm, ends 27 Apr. Barbican Theatre: £5-£26. The Pit £11-£18.50. Barbican Centre, EC2 (0171-638 8891) RR/+ Barbican

● YOUNG VIC: Bartholomew Fair Jonson's intensely theatrical dra-ma. In rep, tonight 7.15pm. RSC at the Young Vic £14-£20. The Cut. 5£1 (0171-928 6363) BR/⊕ Waterloo.

• SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER Hit 1970s musical featuring legendary songs by the Bee Gees and starring Adam Garcia. London Palladium Argyll Street, W1 (0171-494 5020) O Coford Circ. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 2.30pm. £10-£32.50. 135 mins.

) SHOCKHEADED PETER Junk opera, featuring the Tiger Lillies. Lyric Hammersmith King Street, W6 (0181-741 2311) & Hammersmith. 7.30pm, [7] 2.30pm, ends 10 Apr. £5-£18. • SLAYA'S SNOWSHOW Slava

Polounine returns to London with his mesmeric show that takes all ages back to the realms of childish delight. Piccadilly Denman Street, W1 (0171-369 1734) Picc Circ, Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [5][7] 2.30pm, £10-£27.50. STARLIGHT EXPRESS Andrew Lloyd Webber's hi-tech roller-musi-

cal Apollo Victoria Wilton Road. SW1 (0171-416 6070) BR/O Victoria. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [3][7] 3.00pm. £12.50-£30. 150 mins, I TRUST Gary Mitchell's explosive new drama. Royal Court Upstairs (at The Ambassadors) West Street, WC2 (0171-565 5000) & Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 7pm, ends 3 Apr. £10,

● VASSA Howard Davies directs a new stage version of Maxim Gorky's tale of a matriarch and her down-Lane, WC2 (0171-369 1730)

Deic Sq. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [5][7]

Spm, ends 27 Mar. £5-£29.50.

I THE WEIR Copor McPherson's drama, set in Ireland, examines ideas of ghosts and angels. Royal Court Downstairs (at the Duke Of York's) St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-565 5000) ← Leic Sq/Charing X. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 3.30pm. £5-£25. 90 mins.

• WEST SIDE STORY New production of Bernstein's classic musical, attempting to recreate the feel of the original Broadway hit. Prince of Wales Coventry Street, W1 (0171-839 5987) & Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 7,45cm. [5][7] 3pm. £18.50-£35. 160 mins.

O WHISTLE DOWN THE WIND bber's musical based on the film of the same name. Aldwych Aldwych, WC2 (0171-416 6000/cc 836 2428) & Holborn, Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [5][7] 3pm, £10-£32.50.

O THE WOMAN IN BLACK Susate Bill's chilling ghost story. Fortune Russell Street, WC2 (0171-836 2238/344 4444) & Covent Garden. Mon-Sat 8pm, [3] 3pm, [7] 4pm. £8.50-£23.50. 110 mins.

IHEATRE BEYOND THE WEST END

ALMEIDA THEATRE Speer Klaus Maria Brandauer in Esther Vilar's tantalising new drama. Mon-Sat 7.30pm. mats Sat 3pm. ends 27 Mar. £9.50-£19.50. Almeida Street, N1 (0171-359 4404) + Angel.

ARTS THEATRE Howard Crab-tree's When Pigs Fly Gay musical poking fun at American culture. Tue-Fri 8pm, Sat 6pm & 8.30pm, Sun 6pm, ends 3 Apr, £20-£25 concs £15. Great Newport Street, WC2 (0171-836 3334) ⊕ Leicester Square.

HACKNEY EMPIRE Girls' Night Out Hen-night comedy by Dave Simpson. Mon-Sat 8pm, ends 27 Mar. £7.50-£14.50. Mare Street, E8 (0181-985 2424) BR: Hackney Central.

KING'S HEAD, ISLINGTON Gob Ex-Take That good-looker Jason Orange stars in this blistering but comic attack on the bastions of art Comic attack on the basidus of all and culture. The Sun 8pm, mats Sat & Sun 3.30pm, ends 18 Apr. £12-£14, concs £9. Upper Street, N1 (0171-226 1916) & Angel.

THEATRE COUNTRYWIDE

BARNSTAPLE QUEEN'S THEATRE It Can Damage Your Health Study of the British male set within the confines of a hospital ward. Tue-Sat 7.45pm, ends 27 Mar. £6-£10, concs available. Boutport Street (01271-324242)

THEATRE ROYAL Suddenly Last Summer Tennessee Williams' chill-ing tale of motherly love, starring Sheila Gish, Mon-Wed 7.30pm Thur-Sat 8pm, ends 27 Mar, £9-£22.50, concs available, Sawclose (01225-448844)

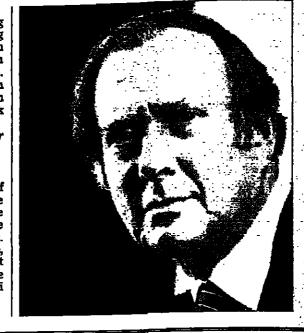
FIRST CALL, LAST CALL

HAROLD PINTER'S (right) latest exercise in directing has just embarked upon a national tour. Exploring the underlying tensions within a post war family, Simon Gray's The Late Middle Classes is a comedy which aims to unmask the sober face of British bravado. Family tensions between a tennis-mad mother, an office ostrich father and their emotionally starved son are given a satirical edge. Vicar of Dibley sidekick James Fleet leads the cast.

Palace Theatre, Watford (01923-225671) to 10 Apr. Tour continues until 22 May

Last Call

DESPITE THE name, Rachel Stamp are a band of boys, but boys who wear a lot of make-up. They have emerged from the Welsh valleys and dare to be energetically different, although as yet they lack the recognition of Catatonia and Manic Street Preachers. Defiantly loud, glamorous and proudly offensive, Rachel Stamp have been compared to tripped-out fright rockers like New York Dolls and Aerosmith, put to a more laid-back vibe they share with Gorky's Zygotic Mynci and Super Furry Animals. Well worth checking out. The Garage, London N5 (0171-344 0044) 27 Mar



EXHIBITIONS ALMA TAVERN Marriage Gogol's comedy about a young man who has everything except a soulmate. Tue-

£4. Alma Vale Road (07020-980980) HIPPODROME THEATRE Phantom of the Opera Tour of Andres Lloyd Webber's huge hit musica Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mats Wed & Sat, 2.30pm, ends 22 May. £10-£30. 5pm, ends 28 Mar, free. Church Street (01273-290900) concs available. St Augustines Parade (0117-929 9444)

NEW VIC STUDIO Sixteen Two and ious teenagers recount their first sexual experience. Mon-Wed 7.30pm, Frl & Sat 8pm, ends 27 Mar. £9, concs £6. King Street (0117-987 7877)

Fri 9pm, Sat 7pm & 9pm, ends 3 Ap

QEH THEATRE Four Hundred Jokes with the Devil Tragi-come dy about one man's attempt to make an epic film about Mexico. Tonight 8pm. £8, concs £6. Jacob's Wells Road (0117-925 0551)

THEATRE ROYAL The Price Com-

pelling drama about two estranged prothers. Mon-Wed 7.30pm, Thur-

Sat 8pm, mats Thur & Sat 2.30pm, ends 10 Apr. £3-£19, concs available. King Street (0117-987 7877) CARDIFE NEW THEATRE Things We Do for Love Belinda Lang stars in Alan Ayckbourn's comedy. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, ends 27 Mar. E8-E18, cords

ailable. Park Place (01222-878889) COLCHESTER MERCURY THEATRE The Ladvkiller Stage adaptation of the Ealing Com-

edy classic . Mon-Wed 7.30pm, Thur-Sat 8pm, ends 27 Mar. £7.50-£15.50.

eme Gate (01206-573948) NORTHCOTT THEATRE Burled Alive Philip Osment's play about a photographer who captures a horrific execution on film. Mon-Fri 7.30pm. Sat 8pm, ends 27 Mar. £7-£15. ier who captures a horrific

Stocker Road (01392-493493) ASHCROFT ARTS CENTRE Blood Wedding Lorea's passionate play. Tonight 7.30pm, ends 25 Mar. £4. concs £3. Osborn Road (01329-

GUILDFORD YVONNE ARNAUD THEATRE The House of Bernarda Alba Lorca's study of conflict between a grieving mother and her daughters. Tue-Thur 7.45pm. Fri & Sat 8pm, ends 27 Mar. £10-£19.50. Milibrook (01483-440000)

HORNCHURCH

adaptation of Stephen King's notori-ous horror story. Mon-Sat 8pm, ends 10 Apr. £8.50-£12.50, concs £5.50-WOLSEY THEATRE The Glass Menagerle Tennessee Williams' por-trait of a laded Southern belle who can't

QUEEN'S THEATRE Misery Stage

let go of her past or her children. Tue-Fri 7.45pm, Sat 8pm, mats Wed & Sat 2.30pm, ends 3 Apr. £5-£14, concs available. Civic Drive (01473-253725) **LEICESTER** HAYMARKET THEATRE Vita and

Virginia Elleen Atkins' play about writ-ers Vita Sackville-West and Virginia Woolf, Tue-Sat 7.30pm, ends able. Belgrave Gate (0116-253 9797) NORTHAMPTON THE DERNGATE Popcorn Ben Elton's satire on cinema violence Mon-Thur 8pm, Fri & Sat 6pm & 9pm, ends 25 Mar. £8-£18.

concs available. Guildhall Road (01604-624811) PLYMOUTH DRUM THEATRE. THEATRE ROY-Al. Things Fall Apart Story of a small Nigerian village at odds with Chris-tian colonialism. Tue-Sat 7.45pm.

ends 27 Mar. £9, concs available. Royal Parade South (01752-267222) THEATRE ROYAL Hamlet Paul Rhys stars as the ill-fated Prince of Den mark in Laurence Boswell's taut nev production, Mon. Tue. Thur-Sat 7pm mat Sat 1pm, ends 27 Mar. £6-£14. Royal Parade South (01752-267222)

ARTS CENTRE The Dispute Mari-vaux's quasi-scientific drama. Tue-Sat 2.30pm & 7.45pm, ends 27 Mar. £7.50-£11.50, Kingland Road (01202-685222)

SOUTHAMPTON MAYFLOWER THEATRE Annie Rags-to-riches story of the optimistic orphan. Tue-Sat 7.30pm, mat Wed m. ends 27 Mar. £12.50-£21.50 Commercial Road (01703-711811)

STRATFORD-UPON-AVON ROYAL SHAKESPEARE THEATRE A Midsummer Night's Dream Josette Simon and Nicholas Jones in the summer classic. In rep, tonight 7.30pm, ends 9 Oct. E5-E39. Waterside (01789-295623) SWAN THEATRE Volpone Malcolm

Storry plays the avaricious hero in Jonson's exuberant satire. In rep.

tonight 7.30pm, ends 9 Oct. E5-£36. Waterside (01789-295623) WATFORD PALACE THEATRE The Late Middle Classes Harold Pinter directs Simon Gray's study of family conflict. Mon-Thur 7.45pm. Fri & Sat 8pm. ends 10 Apr. E4-E15.75. Clarendon

Road (01923-225671)

BRIGHTON BRIGHTON MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY Mary Potter (1900-1981) Retrospective of the artist's largely figurative paintings. Mon, Tue, Thur-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2pm-

ARNOLFINI Accelerator Work by an international group of coatemporary artists, including Hilary Lloyd, Also Sasao and Suzy Spence. Mon-Sat Oam-Pyrn, Sun 12 noon-Spm, ends 28 Mar, free. Narrow Quay (0117-

CAMBRIDGE FITZWILLIAM MUSEUM Picasso and Matisse Prints, drawings and ceramics from the museum's col-

929 91911

lection. Ends 11 Apr.
Recent Acquisitions of Contemporary American Prints Early etchings
of the Rest Coast, lithographs, woodlection. Ends 11 Apr. of the East Coast, lithographs, wood-cuts and screenprints. Ends 2 May. Rembrandt and the Passion The museum's outstanding collection of prints. Tue-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2.15pm-5pm, ends 20 Jun, free. Trumpington Street (01223-332900)

ROYAL ALBERT MEMORIAL MUSEUM The Art of Hilda Carline: Mrs Stanley Spencer The first ma-jor exhibition dedicated to the paintings of Spencer's first wife. Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, ends 3 May, free. Queen Street (01392-265858)

LONDON BARBICAN ART GALLERY Africa by Africa: A Photographic View More than 200 images from sub-Sa-haran Africa. Ends 29 Mar.

Picasso and Photography: The Dark Mirror Works exploring the Spanish master's relationship with photography Mon, Thur-Sat 10am-6.45pm, Tue 10am-5.45pm, Wed 10am-7.45pm, Sun 12noon-6.45pm, ends 29 Mar. £5, concs £3, from Mon-Fri £3 after 5pm. Silk Street. EC2 (0171-638 4141) & Barbican

DESIGN MUSEUM Mini: 40 Years of a Design Icon Mini's designed by celebrities mark the 40th anniversary of the vehicle. Ends 9 May. Modern Britain 1927-1939 Astudy on the important period after the Great War including the work of Francis Bacon, Paul Nash and Barbara Hepworth. Mon-Sun 11.30am-6om, ends 18 Jul. £5.25, concs &

NATIONAL GALLERY Portraits by Ingres Major exhibition of paintings and drawings by the 19th-century French artist. Ends 25 Apr. £6, concs £4, Wed 7pm-10pm. £4. Orazio Gentileschi at the Court of Charles I Rare exhibition exploring the work of the 17th-century Italian artist. Ends 23 May, free.
Rogler Van Der Weyden in the
National Gallery Paintings by the
15th-century Dutch artist. Mon. Tue.

(to museum). Shad Thames, SE1 (0171-378 6055) ← Tower Hill

Thur-Sun 10am-6pm, Wed 10am-9pm, ends 4 Jul, free. Trafalgar Square. WC2 (0171-747 2885) ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS Monet in the 20th Century Paintings made in the 26 years after 1900. Mon-Thur, Sun 9am-6pm, Fri & Sat 9am-10pm, ends 18 Apr. £9, concs £6, child (12-18) £3, child (8-11) £1.50.

ournington House, Piccadilly, W1 (0171-300 8000) ← Green Park TATE GALLERY Art Now 17: Thomas Demand's Tunnel Looped film of travel in a tunnel explores urban life. Ends 25 Apr. free. ds Bacon Previously unknown paint-

cs tacon Previously unknown paintings and drawings. Ends 2 May, free.
Pharmacy: Damlen Hirst Installation exploring modern medicine.
Ends 2 May, free.
Scrapheap Services: Michael Landy Installation of mannequins. Ends
2 May free.

2 May, free. Jackson Pollock Major painting ret-rospective of the Abstract Expresst's works. Ends 6 Jun. £7.50, concs £5, family £19 (Firstcall 0870-842 2233 + £1.60 bkg fee). 0870-842 2233 + £1.60 bkg fee). Turner's Last Papers 1820-51 Examining the paper Turner used for his later work. Ends 13 Jun. free. When Robots Rule - The One Minute Airplane Factory: Claris Bur-den Installation of flying planes explores contemporary life. Ends 27 Jun. free.

angerous Llasons: Rodin and Gwen John Exploring the relation-ship between the artist lovers. Ends Dangerous Liasons: Barbara Hep worth and Ben Nicholson Exam-ining the cross fertilisation of the couple. Mon-Sun 10am-5.50pm, ends 11 Jul, free. Millibank, SW1 (0171-887 8000) & Pimilco

NORWICH ARTS CENTRE India 50 Working People: Sebastlao algado Internationally acclaimed photographer portrays the harsh re-ality of Indian life. Mon-Fri 10am-5pm, Sat 11am-4pm, ends 8 Apr. free. Reeves Yard, St Benedict's Street (01603-660352)

TATE GALLERY Quoit Montserrat: Veronica Ryan Marble sculpture linking St Ives with Montserrat in the West Indies, the artist's birthplace. Mon-Sat 11am-7pm, Sun 11am-5pm, ends 11 Apr. £3.50, concs £2. Porthmeor Beach (01736-796226) CLASSICAL

BRISTOL
5T GEORGE'S BRANDON HILL
Borodin String Quartet Classic
quartets. Tonight 7.30pm. £6-£12.
Brandon Hill (0117-923 0359)

CHELTENHAM PITTVILLE PUMP ROOM Medici Quartet Quartets by Britten and Beethoven. Tonight 8pm. £7.50 & £10. Albert Road (01242-523852).

LONDON BARBICAN HALL City of London Sinfonia/Kraemer Rimsky-Korsakov's Mozort and Solieri plus Mozart's Requiem. Tonight 7.30pm. £7-£25. Bar-bican Centre, EC2 (0171-638 8891) O Moorgate. ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL Philhar-

monia/Zinman A Mozart Violin Concerto with Tchaikovsky's 4th Symphony: Tonight 7.30pm. £5-£30. South Bank, SE1 (0171-960 4242) BR/O Waterloo.

OPERA

LONDON BRITTEN THEATRE, ROYAL COL-LEGE OF MUSIC Lotario Handel's opera as part of the 22nd London Han-del Festival. Tonight 7pm. £12-£20. Prince Consort Road, SW7 (0181-336 0990) South Kensington.

DANCE HIGH WYCOMBE WYCOMBE SWAN Arc Dance Com-

pany presents The Return of Don Juan Features Irek Mukhamedov 23 & 24 Mar, 8pm. £5-£14.50. St Mary's Street (01494-512000) LONDON SADLER'S WELLS Northern Ballet Theatre: Dracula Spine-chilling adaptation of Stoker's classic. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, ends 27 Mar. £7.50-£32.50. Rosebery Avenue.

NORWICH THEATRE ROYAL Richard Alston Dance Company An innovative triple-bill including Movements from Petrushko. 23 & 24 Mar. 7.30pm. £14. Theatre Street (01603-630000)

WYVERN THEATRE English National Ballet: Tour De Force Extracts from ets. Tonight 7.30pm. £6 £16. Theatre Square (01793-524481)

LITERATURE

SWINDON

CHIMPANZEES: SO LIKE US Jane Goodall gives a talk on the behaviour of these primates. Royal Geophical Society Today 12.45pm. graphical Society rougy 220. Kensington Gore SW7 (0171-792 9512) & South Kensington.

TIMOTHY GARTON ASH Garton Ash describes travelling behind the Iron Curtain during the 1980s. Voice Box, Royal Festival Hall Tonight 7.30pm. £4, concs £2.50. South Bank, SE1 (0171-960 4242)

COMEDY

BATH THE FEZ COMEDY CLUB AT CADIL LACS Featuring Dave Fulton with MC Ben Norris. Tonight 8pm. £5, concs £4. Walcot Street (01225-464241)

HIGH WYCOMBE JIM TAVARE AT TOWN HALL Dead-pan comedy with music. Toright 8pm. 58. Victoria Street (01494-512000) LONDON

Martin Coyote, Lee Hurst, Boothin Graffoe and Sean Meo. Tonight Sprn £11. concs £7. Ovendon Street, SW1 (0171-344 0234) + Piccadilly Circus ROMFORD THE STANDING OVATION COME-DY CLUB AT CITY LIMITS WITH use, Otiz Cannelloni and

THE COMEDY STORE The Cutting

Edge with Steve Gribbin, Paul Thorn

MC Kevin McCarthy, Tonight 9pm. E7. Collier Row Road (01245-3813000) **CLUBS**

RIGHTON SUSST AT THE HONEY CLUB Heaps of indie past and present in this up for it party night. Tonight 10pm-2am, free. King's Road Arches (01273-202807)

TUESDAYS AT CAFE BLUE Live

Latin music with DJs. Tonight 9pm-1am, free. The Old Fire Silver Street (0117-940 5626) LONDON BREAKNECK AT GARDENING CLUB Vad and Woody serve up fat beats funky breaks and thumping basslines. Tonight 10pm-3am.

£5, NUS £3, free before 11pm. The Piazza. WC2 (0171-497 3153)

Covent Garden.

EVENTS

LONDON
BADA ANTIQUES AND FINE ARTS FAIR Showcase featuring items from members of the British Antiques Dealers' Association. Duke of York's. Headquarters Today 11am-6pm, £5, double £7.50. King's Road, 5W3. (0171-589 6108) - Sloane Square.

BIRMINGHAM BIS Teen-C fizz-kids present pop from the new album. Social Dan Flapper and Firkin Kingston Row (0121-236 2421) Tonight 8pm. £6. MEAT LOAF The Loaf performs.

STEFAN BETKE, JANEK SHAEF-FER, SEMI-CONDUCTOR Experimental electronic line-up. Arts Club Ship Street (01273-727371) Tonight

British electronica scene-leaders. Com Exchange Wheeler Street (01223-357851), Tonight 7.30pm. £12.

HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

LEICESTER ULTRASOUND Andrew Woods' ambitious prog-pop project. The Char-lotte Oxford Street (0116-255

er Stacy, Barriy at I Falcon Royal College Street NW1 (0171-482 4808) & Camden Town. Tonight 8pm, £6. BILLY MAHONIE, THE WISDOM OF HARRY, PIANO MAGIC Instrumen-

Islington. Tordght 8pm. £5. NARBERTH

NOTTINGHAM STEPS Chartbusting dance-pop quintet perform their smash hits. Royal Centre Theatre Square (0115-989

of their album, Revelutions, The Zodiac Cowley Road (01865-420042) Tonight 7.30pm. £10. PORTSMOUTH CATATONIA Cerys Matthews and her Weish rockers warm up for their third album. The Gulidhali Guildhali

onight 8pm, phone for prices. MUSIC

COURTNEY PINE The high profile DJ-driven contemporary sax star. Ronnie Scott's Broad Street (0121-643 4525) Tonight 8pm. £17.50.

DOGCATCHERS Saxist Jamie, Anderson's Rollins-inspired trio. Towar Hall Imperial Square (01242-227979). Tonight 8pm. £9, concs available. LONDON

◆ Leicester Square. Tonight 9pm & 11.30pm. £15. mems £4.

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CHAPEL ANTIQUE FAIRS Fine quality antiques event. Mariborough fown Hall (01264-850801) Today

> **MUSIC** POP :

tracks from the Greatest Hits album. National Exhibition Centre (012)-780 41 33), Tonight 8pm. £22.50-£25.

CAMBRIDGE
ORBITAL Return to live action by the

KULA SHAKER Crispian Mills and his retro-rock crew. Civic Hall London Road (01483-444555)

MICHAEL ENGLISH The young Irish deesy listening singer Dacorum Pavillon Marlowes HP1 (01442-228717) Tonight 8pm. £9-£10.50.

3956) Tonight 8.30pm. £5. WISEMEN New hand formed around

tal post-rock from the cuit headliners. Upstairs at the Garage Highbury Corner (0171-607 1818) BR/O: Highbury

DAVID GRAY The sophisticated singer-songwriter and band tour the new al-burn, White Ladder. Queen's Hall (01834-861212) Tonight 8pm, £6.

5555) Tonight 8pm. £14.50. GENE Martin Rossiter's post-Briton outfit tour to coincide with the release.

are (01705-824355) Tonigh 8pm. £12.50. SOUTHAMPTON MISHBONE ASH The melodic rockers back on the road again. The Brook Portswood Road (01703-555366)

JAZZ, WORLD, FOLK

concs £11,50. CHELTENHAM

SIMON PURCELL, LINE 606 Club Piano trio double-bill 606 Club Lots Road, SW10 (0171-352 9553) & 12midnight, £4.95. CAROL KIDD Scotland's fine vocalist offers her versatile cabaret pro gramme. Pizza on the Park

MON PURCELL, DAVE GORDON

Knightsbridge SW1 (0171-235.5273) ⊕ Hyde Park Corner, Tonight 9.15pm & 11.15pm, £20, £18 in adv. THREE BARITONE SAXOPHONES BAND Ronnie Cuber Charles Davis and Gary Smulyan pay homage to Gerry Mulligan. Ronnie Scott's Frith Street W1 (0171-439 0747)

₹7 1.45 ₹2: 5.25 A STOMARD Me Contract in EV CINEMA 聞Cartago y November 1 16-14-14 8.00 PARTY OF THE PROPERTY **翰**拉573 (2013年) (343) Tree 205 - - - Art 1978 5.35

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As Cariton except: 12.20 Anglia News and Weather (7966014). 12.55

Op 3Ō

(976-99.8MHz FM) 6.30 Scott Mills, 9.00 Simon Mayo. 12.00 Jo Whitey, 2.00 Mark Radcliffe. 4.00 Chris Moyles. 5.45 Newsbeat 6.00 Dave Pearce. 8.00 Stave Larnacq - the yening Session, 10.00 Digital Opdate, 10.10 John Peel, 12.00 The Breezeblock. 2.00 Clive Warren. 4.00 - 6.30 Scott Mils.

RADIO 1

RADIO 2 (88-90.2MHz FM) 6.00 Sarah Kennedy. 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan. 9.30 Ken Bruce. 12.00 Jimmy Young. 2.00 Ed Stewart. 5.05 Johnnie Walker. 7.00 Alan Freeman: Their Greatest Bits. 8.00 Nigel Ogden. 9.00 Take a Letter Miss Smithl. 10.00 The Directors. See Pick of the Day. 10.30 Richard Allinson. 12.00 Katrina Leskanich. 3.00 - 4.00 Mo

RADIO 3 (90.2-92.4MHz FM) **6.00** On Air. 9.00 Masterworks. 10.30 Artist of the Week. 11.00 Sound Stories. 12.00 Composer of the Week: Schubert.

1.00 The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. John Toal introduces a recital given on Sunday by the Vanbrugh Quartet in Belfast's Waterfront Hall. Moeran: String Quartet in A minor. Beethoven: String Quartet in E flat, Op 74 (Harp) 2.00 The BBC Orchestras. 4.00 Voices.

4.45 Music Machine. (R) 5.00 In Tune. 7.30 Performance on 3. Chris de Souza introduces the third of four concerts given by the Borodin Quartet at St George's, Brandon H藏, Bristol. Brahms: String Quartet No 3 in B flat, Op 67. 8.05 A Sound Read, Ivan Hewett is joined by Steve Jones, professor

of genetics at University College, London, and by Michael Billington, theatre critic of the Guardian. Works under review this month include a book celebrating the remarkable lives of 44 Musical Prodigies', including Mozart, Paganini and Yo-Yo Ma; a biography of Saint-Saens, dubbed the forgotten giant of 19th-century French music; and a chronicle in words

8.00 We the Jury (1996) (55323), 8.00 The Wedding (1997) (17856), 10.00 Tom and Huck (1995) (18472), 12.00 The Directors

28859), 1.00 Femmes Fatales (37507). 2.00 We the Jury, (1996) (75:81), 4.00. The Wedding (1997) [5491), 6.00 Tom and Huck (1995) (52217), 8.00 The Chember (1996)

(57762). 10.00 LA Confidential (1997)

7.00 Godziła vs Gigan (1972) (76897).

9.00 That's Right - You're Wrong (1939) (39878), 11.00 The Wind in the Willows

(1996) (64946). **1.00** Godzilla vs Gigan (1972) (33694). **3.00** That's Right - You're

Wrong (1939) (96694). **5.00** They Won't Believe Ma (1947) (80101). **7.00** The Wind

in the Willows (1996) (57149). 9.00 Na-tional Lampoon's the Don's Analyst (1997)

(68491). **11.00** Bordello of Blood (1995) (30526). **12.30** To Sir, with Love II (1995)

(771163). 2.05 Gold in the Streets (1997) (814279). 3.45 Midnight Crossing (1988) (396328). 5.25 They Wor't Believe Me

SKY CINEMA 4.00 Contraband (1940) (7767507). 6.00

The Hunchback of Notre Dame (1939) (2160656), 8.00 Champion (1949) (2165101).

10.00 For a Few Dollars More (1965) (12291946), 12.10 The French Connection II

(1975) (808545), 2.05 Ouintet (1979) (2002569), 4.05 Monsieur Beaucaire (1946)

6.00 Things Change (1988) (27461323).
7.40 Saxa (7695168). 8.00 French Kiss (1995) (4797675). See Pick of the Day.
10.00 The Amateur (1982) (9551946).

11.45 For Ever Mozart (1996) (6598120). 1.45 The Brood (1979) (1200322). 2.50 -

A.00 Rev Hurt's Fishing Adventures (746323), 4.30 The Car Show (742507). 5.00 Hitler-Stain Dangerous Liaisons (848518), 6.00 Wildins SOS (1723472). 6.30 Unterned Africa (3656859), 7.30 Futureworld (1743236), 8.00 Great Escapes (1730205), 8.30 Quentum: The Text Bulletons Start (858052), San Pick

capes (I/SUZUS). 8.30 CULBRUITT: THE Tory Bullimore Story (6580502). See Pick of the Day. 9.00 Trailblazzes (8459255). 10.00 Betty's Voyage (8429014). 11.00 Bubmarine (8316965). 12.00 Inlandsis Descent in the Ice (9030095). 1.00 Hitter-Stalin Dangerous Liaisons (4101105). 2.00 Cinea

6.00 Eat Drink Man Woman (1994)

DISCOVERY CHANNEL

SKY PREMIER

SKY MOVIEWAX

(1947) (84185540).

(32514076), 5.35 Close.

talks candidly about her marriage to Donald Swann, a man 40 years ber senior, in The Musical Side of the Family (1.30pm R4). The

THE ART historian Alison Smith Sarah LeFanu is joined by the science-fiction author Brian Aldiss and the paleontologist

The Directors (10pm R2), concludes with an interview with Terry Gilliam (right). Mark Kermode adopts unashamedly reverential tones as the maverick ex-Python spills the beans about his creative process.

DOMINIC CAVENDISH



at the prospect of animal trans-

9.30 Unreliable Evidence. Clive Anderson cuts through the jargon to get to the heart of an issue which affects anyone who uses the legal system. 10.00 The World Tonight, With

Justin Webb. 10.45 Book at Bedtime: Radio 4 at The Word. Five stories about London life. 2: "Best Wishes from Jernima Shore' by Antonia Fraser, read by Patricia Hodge. During a rather unsuccessful book-signing tour, TV presenter and amateur sleuth Jemima Shore is suddenly presented with an alarming request from an admirer.

TLOC News. 11.05 NEWS; Do Go On. (R) †L30 Talking Pictures. 12.00 News 12.30 The Late Book: Raymond Carver Short Stories. 12.48 Shipping Forecast 1.00 As World Service.

5.30 World News. 5.35 Shipping Forecast. 5.40 Inshore Forecast. 5.45 Prayer for the Day. 5.47 - 6.00 Farming Today. RADIO 4 LW

(198kHz) 9.45 - 10:00 Daily Service. 12.00 - 12.04 News Headlines; Shipping Forecast. 5.54 - 5.57

9.00 Nicky Campbell. 12.00 The Midday News. 1.00 Ruscoe and Co. ANOTHER BUNDESLIGA weekend

4.00 Drive. 7.00 News Extra. 7.30 The Tuesday Match. Russell Fuller presents coverage of tonight's football action. 10.00 Late Night Live. The day's big stories with Nick Robinson. Including 10.30 a full sports round-up. 1100 News and finance. And between 11.30 and 100 a sharp and

1.00 Up All Night, 5.00 - 6.00 Morning Reports. CLASSIC FM

spirited late-night topical discus-

(100.0-101.9MHz FM) 6.00 Nick Bailey. 8.00 Henry Keily. 12.00 Requests. 2.00 Concerto. 3.00 Jamie Crick. 6.30 Newsnight. 7.00 Smooth Classics at Seven. 9.00 Evening Concert. Michael Nyman: The Piano Con-

certo. Kathryn Stott, Royal Liverpool PO/Michael Nyman. Adams: Shaker Loops. Orchestra of S: Lukes/John Adams, Part: Fratres. Chilingirian Quartet. Steve Reich: Different Trains. Kronos Quartet 11.00 Alan Mann. 2.00 Concerto 3.00 - 6.00 Mark Griffiths.

VIRGIN RADIO (1215, 1197-1260kHz MW 105.8MHz

6.30 Chris Evans. 9.30 Russ Williams. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00 Harriet Scott, 6.45 London Calling with Harriet Scott/AM Pete and Geoff, 7,30 Pete and Geoff, 10,00 Mark Forrest. 1.00 James Merritt 4.30 - 6.30 Richard Allen.

WORLD SERVICE RADIO (198kHz LW) 1.00 The World Today, 1.30 On

Screen. 2.00 The World Today. 2.30 Mapping the World. 3.00 The World Today. 3.20 Sports Roundup. 3.30 World Business Report. 3.45 Insight. 4.00 - 7.00 The World Today (4.00-7.00).

TALK RADIO 6.00 Big Boys Breakfast with David Banks & Nick Ferrari. 9.00 Scott Chisholm and Sally James. 12.00 Crime Fighters. 1.00 Anna Raeburn - Live and Direct. 4.00 The SportZone, 7.00 Eubank's People. 8.00 Cheating Hearts with Jayne Irving. 10.00 James Whale. 1.00 - 6.00 Ian Collins.

Dad's Army (4995385). 8.20 The Cornedy

Atternative: The Brittas Empire (2126033). 9.00 Red Dwarf V (1829946). 9.40 Crime Traveller (39206149). 10.45 Bugs (53614491). 11.50 The Bit (544588). 12.20

The Bill (6403415), 12.50 Blackadder Goes

Forth (8573637). 1.25 French and Saun-

(8886540), 3.00 - 7.00 Shopping with

6.00 Tiny and Crew (79288052). 6.20 10

plus 2 (48629385), 6.40 Greedysaurus and the Gang (98298965), 6.45 Philibert the Frog (98297236), 6.50 Polks Dot

Shorts (982/8101), 7.00 Practical Parenting

(3064168), 7.05 Professor Bubble (1139659). 7.30 Callou (6658323), 7.35 Bug Alert

Tiny Tales (3836014), 8.35 Tiny and Crew (4768052), 8.50 Practical Parenting

9.30 The Roseanne Show - Highlights

293781). 9.00 Special Babies (8970120).

(7857304), 10.00 The Jerry Springer Show

(9195168), 10.50 Maury Povich (3594946), 11.40 Brookside (23951168), 12.10 Through

the Keyhole (21296965), 12.40 Rescue 911 (43629698), 1.10 Beyond Bellef: Fact or Fic-

(4791439), 2.30 Special Babies (9947033).

3.00 Living Room (6059491). 3.50 Michae

Cole (4356507). 4.40 Through the Keyhole (59761743). 5.10 The Heat is On (15460675).

5.40 Ready, Steady, Cook (6848675), 6.15 The Jerry Springer Show (1592781), 7.05

Rescue 911 (4350507), 7.35 Animal Rescu

(4638694), 8.00 LA Law (2192255), 9.00

Film: Maid to Order (1987) (2162014). 11.00 Sex Files II (7121762), 12.00 Closa.

9.00 Marlowe (1969) (33537878), 11.00

Rensom (1955) (23450014), 1.00 Pride of the Marines (1945) (50148989), 3.15 Mar-lowe (1969) (13565892), 5.00 Close.

PARAMOUNT COMEDY CHANNEL

Z.00 Jenny (7878), Z.30 Grace Under Fire (3197), 8.00 Ellen (6526), 8.30 Spin City

(593), 9.00 Drop the Dead Donkey (5533), 9.00 Drop the Dead Donkey (5530), 9.30 Whose Line is it Anyway? (49781), 10.00 Frasier (22526), 10.30 Cheers (97569), 11.00 Seinfeld (77675).

11.30 The Larry Senders Show (7878). 12.00 Late Night with Devid Letterman (82434). 1.00 Taxi (43618). 1.30 Frontine (97927). 2.00 Dr Ketz (87521). 2.30 Tibs

and Fibs (73328), 3.00 Nightstand (56182), 3.30-4.00 Abbott & Costello (97908).

94), 8.25 Babaloos (1051033), 8.30

(9652217), **8.00** Barney and Friends

ders (9384057), 2.00 Dencerfield

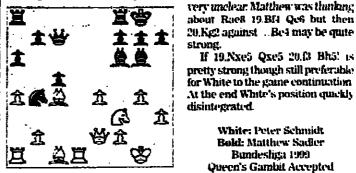
Screenshop (8830076).

INDEPENDENT PURSUITS

CHESS

moments

and two more victories for Solingen as we move mexorably towards the showdown with Porz of Hamburg on April 18th. Regular readers will know the script which regrettably currently includes a loss as Black on Saturday by your columnist. My two England colleagues. Michael Adams and Matthew Sadler both made a point-and-a-half though, including this forceful victory:



Promoted above both English-

man Peter Wells, who had the bet-

ter half of a draw with Robert

Hubner, and the once world-class

Czech Jan Smeikal, who recap-

tured a daunting amount of his for-

mer glory against me during this

match, Peter Schmidt has become

something of a sacrificial lamb,

with, following a further defeat on

Sunday, a total score of "minus

nine" this season. Nevertheless,

you still have to beat them and

After some sparring in the open-

Matthew did so very cleanly.

Bundeshiga 1990 Queen's Gambit Accepted 17.g1 Bg6 1.d4 d5 2.e4 dxc4 3.NB N6 1 c 3 e 6 5.Bxc4 c5

ing, 11.d5?! was weaker than 11.h3

b6 12 dxe5 Bxe5 t3 e4 which the In-

donesian Juswanto played against

Sadler in the first round of the Ere-

van Olympiad in 1996 - Matthew won

but only after surviving some tricky

13... Bf6 14.e4 Bg4 15.Be3 Nd4

16.Bxd4 Bxd4 17.h3 Bxf3 18.Uxd3

would be equal but Matthew wanted

more. In the diagram 18.55 was her-

rible. Instead 18 ea is critical and

about Rack 19 BH Qc6 but then

If 19.Nxe5 Qxe5 20.03 Bh5! is

White: Peter Schmidt

Bold: Matthew Sadler

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(see deseram 18.c3"" Be3 19.Nh4 Rae8 20.Nxg6 hxg6 21.0g4 Rd4 6.0-0 Nc6 22.Bit Re6 7.Ne3 a6 23 Be2 65 8 24 Bc7 24.cd5 Rd5 9.0e2 Oc7 10.Rd1 0-0 25 Be3 Bac3 11.d5 exd5 26.fxc3 Qc7 12.Nxd5 Nxd5 27.hs Ne2 13.Bxd5 Nb4 28.Qc4 Nxc3 14.Bc4 Bt6 29.Rd8+ Kh7 15.e4 Rg4 White resigns

CREATIVITY

WOULD WEATHERMEN be iso- Cloven (EOK). Drake: What's Arbarred and vicars taken out of service? (JR Gore). And still they flood in, those appropriate sackings. So much excellent material was omitted, I will be self-publishing a Creativity Extra (magazine) to give it all a platform. Watch this space. And so to tabloid headlines from

history. Icarus Tragedy - only in your super, sizzling Sun (Tony Brandon); Sun "The Centre Of the Universe" - We Knew It All Along! (Tony Mc-Coy O'Grady). Cleopatra was popular: Jools, Cleo, Tony in Sex Trio (Paul Turner): Cleo in Denial (Bruce Birchall): Cleo Gasos her Last. Clasping Asp (TB); Fangs For the Mammary (Len Clarke); Cleo & Sting - "Just Good Friends" (John O'Byrne).

Troy: Helen Destroyed (Jeffrey Thomas); Achilles - What a Heel! (Mike Gifford); My Kingdom For a Horse! (WS); Belly Funny! (Ella O'Key). Judea: Herod Promises Immediate Action To Reduce Class Sizes (PT): It's A Boy! (John Lam-

1066 and All That: Harold Unsighted! (Joan Vinnicombe); Shafted! (R. J. Pickles): "C'Est Un Dans L'Oeil Pour Lui", dit Guillaume (Colin O'Hare), Becket Kicks Bucket, Sir Thomas Is No More! (MG). Godiva gets her kit off - exclusive woodcuts, page 3 (TMOG); "No cover up" sez Godiva (TB); The Peephole's Princess (John Terris). Towercate - Tricky Dicky Siezes Crown! (Alan Anne Boleyn: Axedental Death of

an Anna Kissed! (Andrew Duncan); She Axed For It (Colin Archer): Henry Tuder head off (TMOG); Anne 30 March.

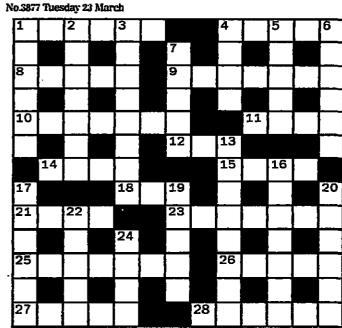
mada? (JV). Charles I: Choppa for Chazza (Janet Holdcroft): That's Another Fine Mess You've Gotten Me Into, Ollie (BB), 1666: House Fire in Pudding Lane Brought Under Control (Matthew White); Phew Survive - What A Scorcher! (John Lamper); Great Balls Of Fire! (JV). Jeanne D'Arc: Frying

Tonight!(JH), 1789: Shut Yer Cakehole, Antoinette! (Tom Gaunt), 1815: Give It Welly! (Colin Archer); Slaughterloo! (RJP) Napoleon BlownApart! 1945: Touche Il Duce! (JeT); Two-Nil! Two-Nil! Two-Nil (JL); Good riddance Adolf - your goosesten is cooked! (TB); Sun King is sunk (Harold Smith).

Chicago: Capone Caput (JO'B). Bohr: Core - What a Theory! (John Hawgood). Chernobyl: Core -Blimey! Bolivia: Gotche! Zia: Bhutt Out! (BB). Pinochet: Chile Con Carnage! (Christopher Lee). First Toilet Break On Moon: One Small Stoop for Man. One Giant Leak for Mankind (Al Ratcliffe), Privatised Trains - The Latest! Santer - The claws are out! Slobbered-On Milosevic bites dog! (Peter Thomas).

Chambers Dictionaries of Quotations for Tony Brandon, Al Ratcliffe and Octavia Leigh's challenge: automated phone-options scripts e.g. "This is Mental Health Helpline. If you are an obsessive compulsive, press 1 repeatedly". Ideas to Creativity, Features, The Independent, 1 Canada Square, London E145DL or e-mail to Loki. Valhalla wibtinter net.com by 1 April, Three more Chambers prizes on 6 April. Uses for genetically-modified tomatoes on

CONCISE CROSSWORD



ACROSS Less bright (6) More unusual (5) Follow (5)

Lady's accessory (7) 10 Staying power (7) 11 Aspersion (4) 12 Lair (3) 14 Net (4) 15 On a single occasion (4)

18 Also (3) 21 Evangelist (4) Usual haunt (7) 26 City in Nebraska (5)

S African currency (4) Revolt (5) Respect (6) Forward (5) Place for jottings (8) 16 Dense (7) 17 Untidy (6) 19 Detestation (5) 20 Gap (6)

24 Legislative assembly (4)

Elaborate (of clothing) (6)

Communication (7)

Vision (8)

DOWN

TUESDAY RADIO

PICK OF THE DAY

programme contains recordings of his serious compositions including a setting of Yeats' poetry that he made in the last weeks of his life. A Good Read (4pm R4) is back for another run - today

Dr Richard Fortey.



12.00 NEWS; You and Yours. and pictures of the great Spanish composer Manuel de Falle. 8.25 Concert, part 2. Tchaikovsky: String Quartet No 3 in E flat minor, 12.57 Weather 1.00 The World at One. 1.30 The Musical Side of the Family. See Pick of the Day. 9.25 Postscript. A five-part series 2.00 NEWS; The Archers.

in which Iwan Russell-Jones looks at attitudes to the body in our cul-ture. 2: 'The Protective Shield'. Examining our preoccupation with maintaining and nurturing the body, including visits to the Sanger 010 0444. Centre in Cambridge - at the cutting edge of mapping the human genome - and the Mind Body Spirit Festival about New Age therapies and philosophies. 9.50 BBC Scottish Symphony

Orchestra. Conductor Martyn Brabbins. Maxwell Davies: Fantasia on an 'In nomine' of John Tavemer 10.45 Night Waves, Richard Coles

reviews Terence Conran's exhibition 'From the Bomb to the Beatles' in London and asks why the 1990s have become so nostalgic for the 50s. And Bill Buford of the New Yorker delivers his regular report from the Big Apple. 11.30 Jazz Notes. 12.00 Composer of the Week: Strauss. (R) 1.00 - 6.00 Through the Night.

RADIO 4 (92.4-94.6MHz FM) 6.00 Today. 9.00 NEWS; Unreliable Evidence. 9.30 Song Lines. (R) 9.45 Serial: Radio 4 at The Word. 10.00 NEWS; Woman's Hour.

Kasdan (The Big Chill), she plays

a woman who becomes embroiled

with a diamond smuggler while

pursuing a wandering fiancé

11.00 NEWS; Nature.

11.30 Chambers.

2.15 Afternoon Play: The End of the World is the Best Thing That Ever Happened to Me. 3.00 NEWS; The Exchange: 0870 3.30 The New Recruit. 3.45 This Sceptrad Isla. 4.00 NEWS; A Good Read. See Pick of the Day. 4.30 Shop Talk. 5.00 PM. 5.57 Weather. 6.00 Six O'Clock News **6.30** Mammon. 7.00 NEWS: The Archers. 7.15 Front Row. Francine Stock chairs the arts programme. 7.45 The Cry of the Bittern. An environmental drama by Tim Jackson. Director Vanessa Whitburn, (27/30), 8,00 NEWS; Face the Facts. John Waite and his team of investigators follow up listeners' complaints.

news for visually impaired people. 9.00 NEWS; Virus - the Unseen Enemy, James Erlichman's fourpart exploration of the life of the virus. 4: As new viruses are uncovered and HIV continues to teach us the dreadful lesson of benign animai viruses turning into a human plague, we are set for possibly the bicoest camble of all - transplanting animal organs. This week's programme looks at the possibility of a vaccine for cervical cancer and

8.40 in Touch. Peter White with

Shipping Forecast. 11-30 - 12-00 Today in Parliament. RADIO 5 LIVE (693, 909kHz MW) SATELLITE AND CABLE

PICK OF THE DAY MEG RYAN must have taken out smuggler - gets to include his a patent on blonde cuteness passion for wacky accents. (which gets its latest airing in the We have always had a deep lightweight retread of Sleepless affection for adventurers such as in Seattle, You've Got Mail). In Chris Bonnington or Ranulph

French Kiss (Spm FilmFour), a Fiennes. Tony Bullimore is comic romance from Lawrence another of that ilk. His tale of surviving for days in the hull of his capsized boat captured the public imagination. It is retold in tonight's Quantum (8.30pm (Timothy Hutton) to Paris. As he Discovery), entitled "The Tony JAMES RAMPTON



did in Fierce Creatures, Kevin Bullimore Story". Kline (right) - in the role of the Fastrax (2875). **8.00** Greyhound Racing - Grand National Quarter-finals (18052). 7.00 Count Duckula (52217). 7.30 The Chris Evans Breakfast Show (31526). 8.30 10.00 Sky Sports Centre (726168). 10.15 You're on Sky Sports (933149), **11.00** Inside Scottish Footbell (29697), **12.00** Sky Hollywood Squares (66192), 9.00 Sally Jessy Raphael (13149), 10.00 The Oprah Sports Centre (8472231). 12.5 You're on Sky Sports (897434). 1.00 Premier Snook-Winfrey Show (60236). 11.00 Guilty! (40472), **12.00** Jenny Jones (35149), **1.00** Med about You (51588), **1.30** Jeopardy er League (60873), 3.00 Fastrax (58540). (15385), 2.00 Sally Jessy Rapheel (28762), 3.00 Jenny Jones (40507), 4.00 3.30-3.45 Sports Centre (46457521). SKY SPORTS 2

Guity! (29014). 5.00 Star Trek: Voyager (9217). 6.00 America's Dumbest Criminals 7.00 Aerobics - Oz Style (6515435), 7.30 Sky Sports Centre (4320697). 7.45 Racing News (8063052). 8.45 Moto-plus (5932120). (2491), 6.30 Dream Team (3743), 7.00 The Simpsons (9566), 7.30 The Simpsons (2255), 8.00 Rescue Medics (9694). 8.45 Sky Sports Centre (994965). 9.00 8.30 Coppers (8101). 9.00 World's Wildest Police Videos (50472). 10.00 Bloody Foreigneral (60859), 11.00 Dream Team (20743), 11.30 Star Trak: Voyager (92878). 12.30 The Commish (52 (1819507), **7.00** Golf Vodacom Tour 5388269, **8.00** LPGA 1999 - Standa 1.30 - 7.00 Long Play (6257601). 7.00 Sky Sports Centre (4426897), 745 V-Max (508526), 7.45 Totalsport (507897). 8.15 You're on Sky Sports (7285566) 9.00 Racing News (47061) 9.30 Aerobics - Oz Skyle (34859) 10.00 Footbell League Review (79138), 11.00 Max Power (80014). 12.00 Aerobics - Oz Style (23255), 12.30 Ford Monday Night Special (25481), 2.30

Fish TV - Tony Dean Outdoors (51/2897): 9.30 Fish TV (1890472). 10.00 International Bowls Australia vs England (1810236). 12.00 Motor Racing (8594168). 2.00 Tota Sport (5760472), 2.30 World Motor Sport (5588439), 6.00 Sports Unlimited Register Tournement Ping (9788025), 10.00 Rugby League Academy Canberra v St George (2402510), 11.00 Sports Unlimited (7979753), 12.00 Golf Vodacom Tour 81868921. 1.00 LPGA 1999 - Standard Register Tournament Ping (9777347). 3.00 Sports Centre (50059786), 3.55 Close. SKY SPORTS 3 12.00 World Wresting (19203830). 1.00 Fish TV (31222168). 1.30 Fish TV (19223694). 2.00 The Golden Age of Rac-

Ching-Fo (1111439), 3.30 International Bowls Australia v England (15144149), 5.30 Rebel Sports (1470323), 6.00 Rugby League Academy Canberra vs St George (19209014), 7.00 Fish TV (27859830), 7.30 Fish TV Fishing Tales (14786472), 8.00 Premier Snooker League (33530955). 10.00
Tales from the Premiership A Tale of Two
Strikers (14329033). 10.20 Superbouls. Curry v Starling (79890101). 11.30 Close.

EUROSPORT
7.30 Raily (99762), 8.00 Figure Skating (73236), 10.00 Footbal: Eurogoals (95946), 11.00 Raily (7220), 11.30 Figure Skating (732369), 3.30 Tennis ATP Tour (1323), 4.00 Tennis (14304), 5.30 Figure Skating (12803507), 93.5 Tennis ATP Tour

The Bit (3010743), 9.30 The House of Elott (5833946), 10.30 Thoda (3049255), 11.00 Dalas (4863323), 11.55 Neighbours (75053656), 12.25 EastEnders (2798410). The Bill (2159174), 3.55 EastEnders

(108507). 10.00 Boxing (20255). 11.00 Rally (54101). 11.30-12.30 PGA Golf (29946).

1.00 Bugs (1360491), 2.00 Dales (7696014), 2.55 The Bill (1608385), 3.25 (3215859), 4.30 Rhods (1744965), 5.00 Al Creatures Great and Small (6885156), 6.00 Dynasty (1380255), 7.00 The Comedy Alternative: Ever Decreasing Circles (7527782), 7.40 The Comedy Alternative:

DK GOLD 7.00 Crossroads (8309675). 7.30 Neighbours (6473743). 7.55 EastEnders (5531972). 8.30 The Bit (3029491). 9.00

BBC1 SCOTLAND
As BBC1 London excepts 12.30
Dotaman (92006965), 12.45 Tirean Seuma (92006965), 12.45 Tirean Seuma (Enchanted Lands) (2198507), 6.00 News (859), 6.30 Reporting Scotland; Westiner (439), 9.30 Frontline Scotland (87588), 10.55 Jeilbirds (333149), 11.25 Bitly Cornoby's World four of Australia (14527), 12.05 Crimewatch UK Update (8753618), 12.15 Scotlish Questions (7124705), 1.00 Film: Angel Fight Down (585569), 2.35 Joins BBC News 24 (96799786).

Spanish Football Valencia vs Real Zaragoza (28149), 4.00 Golf Vodacom Tour (78304).

5.00 World Wrestling Federation Live Wire (8507), 6.00 Sky Sports Centre (2439). 6.30 Inside Scottish Football (41217). 7.30

SKY SPORTS 1

(562743). 11.30 The Thoughts of Chairman Af (7878). 12.00 Short Story Cinema (18705). 1.00 Airwolf (4577705). 2.45 Dead Mon's Tales (93569). 3.15 Nationwide Football League Extra (8853182). 4.30 Coach (420169). 4.35 Soundirax (3380414). 4.45 ITV Nightscreen (2943366). CENTRAL

CENTRAL
As Cariton except: 12.20 Central
News and Weather (7986014), 12.55
Home and Away (4215188), 2.50 Heart of
the Country (5619410), 5.30 Shortland
Street (934), 6.00 Central News at Six
(255), 11.20 Central News (562743),
11.30 Renegade (18217), 4.05 Jobinder
(1509389), 5.20 Again Eye (3013288).

MERIDIAN As Carlton except: 10.30 This Morning (4230304). 12.45 Meridian News and Weather (4728946). 12.55 Shortland Street (9634859). 1.30 Home (13705), **1.00** Airwolf (4577705), **2.45** Dead Men's Tales (93569), **3.15** Nationwide Football League Extra (8853182), **4.10** Coach (41201616), **4.35** Soundtrax (33804144). 4.45 ITV Nightscreen (33824906). 5.00 Freescreen (28296). WESTCOUNTRY

News (4726946). 12.27 Illuminations (7974033). 12.55 Westcountry Lunchtime Live (4215169). 3.10 ITV News Headines (446743). 3.15 Westcountry News (4461014). 5.30 Our House (994). 6.00 Westcountry News (562743). 11.20 Westcountry News (562743). 11.30 Benegade (18277). 1.00 Altwolf (4577705). 2.45 Dead Men's Tales (93569). 3.15 Nationwide Football League Extra (8853182). 4.10 Coech (41201618). 4.38 Soundrax (33804144). (41201618). 4.35 Soundtrax (33804144). 4.45 ITV Nightscreen (2943366).

YORKSHIRE As Cariton except: 10.30 This Morning (44280304). 12.15 Calendar News and Weather (4728946). 12.55 Home and Away (4215166), 2.10 Coronation Street (56119410), 5.30 Tonight (994), 6.00 Calendar (255), 11.20 Calendar News; Weather (562743), **11.30** Roar (18217), **4.45** Jobfinder (1598873),

As Yorkshire except: 12.15 North East News and Weather (4726946), 5.30 North East Tonight (84472), 11.20 North East News and Weather (562743).

As Channel 4 except: 9.00 Ysgo-lon/Schools (28914856), 12.00 Be-whiched (97782033), 12.30 Sesame Street (28517878), 1.00 Planed Plant Street (265/7878). 1.00 Planed Plant (67554472). 1.30 The Ocean World of John Stoneman (95100656). 1.55 Film: English without Tears* (78621656). 4.30 Planed Plant: Uned 5 (90870101). 5.30 Countdown (9781255). 6.00 Newyddion (9781255). 6.00 Newyddion (9781255). 6.30 Heno (86618491). 7.00 Pobol y Cwm (90890865). 7.30 Newyddion (67896304). 8.30 Y Sice Gelf (90876385). 8.30 Pennelli (90888720). Gion (67896304). 8.00 Y Stoe Gelf (90876385). 8.30 Pengell (90898120). 8.00 Tair Chwaer (37047526). 10.00 Brookside (72352878). 10.35 Queer as Fok (52963472). 11.15 Hoddle and the Healer (16177830). 12.20 The ti O'Clock Show (71060569). 12.20 The ti O'Clock Pony (85058873). 1.20 Fusion (22124366). 1.50 Close.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

ing A-Z of Motorsport (27855014). 2.30 Shells Wonderful World of Golf Kroll vs

BBC1 N ERELAND
As BBC1 London SE except: 6.30
Newsire 6.30 (439).
BBC1 SCOTLAND
As BBC1 London except: 12.30
Dotaman (92006965). 12.45 Tirean Seura (Paranted Lands) (21186507).
6.00 News (859). 6.30 Reporting Scot-(9634859). **1.30** Home and Away (35347529). **1.55** The Jerry Springer Show (5381930). **3.30** ITV News Headines (4462743). **3.15** HTV News (4461014). **5.30** Night Owis (994). **6.00** HTV News (255). **11.20** HTV News (555). **4.00** HTV News (557). **4.00** HTV News (557). **4.00** HTV News (557). **4.00** HTV News (557).

HTY WALES As Cartton except 10.30 This Morning (4230304), 12.15 HTV News (4728046), 12.55 Shortland Street

(562743). 11.30 Renegade (18217). 1.00 Alrwolf (4577705). 2.45 Dead Men's Tales (93589). 3.45 Nationwide Football League Extra (8853182). 4.40 Coach (41201618). 4.35 Soundrax (33804144). 4.45 ITV Nightscreen (2943366). HTV WEST As HTV Wales except: 5.30 Can You Keep & Secret? (994).

Shortland Street (9634859), 1.30 Home and Away (35847526), 1.55 The Jerry Springer Show (5381930), 3.40 ITV News Headlines (4462/43), 3.15 Merician News and Weather (4461014), 5.00 Home and Away (7728), 5.26 Three Minutes (8818520), 5.30 Surprise Chefs (994), 6.00 Merician Toright (255), 11.20 Merician News (582/43), 11.30 cyber.cafe (78743), 12.00 Pier Pressure

TYNE TEES

As Cariton except: 10.30 This Morning (44230304). 12.35 Westcountry News (4728946). 12.27 Illuminations

23 Escapist (7) 25 27 Barm (5) 28 Outline (6)

Solution to yesterday's Concise Crossword: ACROSS: 1 Dough, 4 Sedge (Dosage), 10 Closure, 11 Annul, 12 First, 13 Isolate, 15 Oath, 17 Whine, 19 Owlet, 22 Obey, 25 Vulpine, 27 Cakes, 29 Debut, 30 Crevice, 31 Stoop, 32 Amber: DOWN: 2 Odour, 3 Glutton, 5 Erato, 6 Gunwale, 7 Scoff, 8 Merit, 9 Steet, 14 Shoe, 16 Aeon, 18 Halibat, 20 Wych chra, 21 Evade, 23 Beach, 24 Aster, 26 Intro, 28 Knife.

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TELEVISION REVIEW HANKS

Operation Desert Fox, last year's hombing raids on Iraq. To back him up, he had witnesses, names, dates and clinky computerised

the wall. And when was site, they're going to were there." d tooked severe; left out one clause, u? What does the alpha

BBC

9.00 Kilroy (S) (T) (222323), 9.45 (7694726), 10.10 The Venesse Show 10.55 News; Hegional News; Wealth 11.00 Change That (S) (3781526), 11.55 (News; Wealther (T) (7639323), 12.00 (72168), 12.30 Top Tip Challenge (R) 12.55 The Weather (T) (20694), 1.30 Reg. Weather Show (S) (T) (53 News; Weather (T) (20694), 1.30 Reg. Weather (58278656), 1.40 Neighbour 2.05 Ironside (R) (5538659), 2.55 Tip (R) (S) (T) (5514174).

Children's BBC: Playdays (R) (S) (6175656). 3.45
The Enchanted Lands – the Adventures of the Wishing Chair (R) (S) (5720507). 3.55 Hublub (S) (T) (9450439). 4.10 Chipmunks Go to the Movies (R) (S) (T) (5105410). 4.35 The Really Wild Show (S) (T) (3759859). 5.00
Newsround (S) (T) (444386). 5.10 Grange Hill (9101472).

ghbours. The end is bunts (S) (T) (376385).

(7) (859),

8,30 Regional News. And weather (T) (439).

20

700 **Holiday.** Jill Dando visits Ibiza. A bit old for all that, lan't she? Plus, Jeremy Spake in Miami, Kate Humble in Finland and Kale Sanderson in West Sussex (S) (5236).

7.30

EastEnders. Roy tries to get a prescription of Viagra (S) (T) (1656).

8,30 Animat Hospital. Chief vet Tessa Balley operates save the leg of an injured kitten. And the swan that couldn't fly (S) (T) (3491).

9.00 Newsj (1) (1256).

Jailbirds. Septuagenarian fraudster by is fast becoming the star of this womens' prison docu-This week, she's in discussion with her solicitor at the likely length of her sentence (S) (T) (87588).

10.65 5 Ross and Jill Danc I (S) (T) (854033).

ess killing of a man who ido llalse

10.20

10<u>.30</u>

Crimewatch UK Update (S) (T) (992 bily's World Tour of Australia. The Adelaids and Perth, meeting Aboriginal Adelaids and Perth, meeting Aboriginal Pike, who discovered his creative talent time for murder (R) (S) (T) (374507).

냚

DOCUMENTARY OF THE DAY

10.00 Telejubbles (85033). 10.45 Teaching Today (S) (4 (3949491). 11.35 Words and D-Mag (S) (6278101). 12.10 E

Working Lunch (98694), 1.00 Oakie Doke (R) (S) (68675656), 1.10 The History Hour (S) (9621385), 2.10 Sporting Greats (S) (56199656), 2.40 News; Regional News; Weather (3943846), 2.45 Westminster (4313120), 3.25 News; Regional News; Weather (4463472), 3.30 The Village (910304), 3.55 Kaye (S) (9129323), 4.25 Ready, Steady, Cook (6814168), 4.55 Esther (5898149),

Whose House?. Through the keyhole Knowles and Charlle Dimmock (S) (588).

with Eric

6.00 Fresh Prince of Bel Air. Will a upset at the thought of moving to Philadelphia with his mother (R) (S) (T) (245217).

6.25 Heartbreak High. Hard-hitting drama school-children. The day of the exams are has trouble steeping, Sarah is stok all over seven years' bad luck (S) (T) (828304).

The O Zone (S) (1) (269217)

740

From the Edge. Mik Soariet discovers whether or not disabled people will have full access to the Millennium. Dome (S) (T) (965).

8.00 House Proud. The last in the self-build house series. finds Cavino and Francesca shopping for bathrooms in Italy, while Neil from Northumberland knocks together a home out of polystyrene blocks (S) (T) (2526). inumberland knocks to blocks (S) (T) (2526).

Your Money or Your Life. Featuring a 36-year-old woman desperate to move out of her parents' house, and a ratifed couple with a lifetime of savings (S) (T) (1033).

Eililigi Close Up: JD
to Talk. Goes in search o
Catcher In the Rye. See Art Home Front in the Garden. Diarmuld Gavin and helpmates create a pond garden with play area for a couple with a three-year-old child (S) (T) (9897).

er in the Rye. Se (S) (T) (467651). Salinger Dosen't Want the reclusive author of The Programme of the Day,

Coming Clean - the Truth Varying attitudes to washing the man (T) (t Housework.) (T) (158878).) (261679).

ce of the temporarily departed buble dose of Manhattan ill Jerry, Kramer makes a pasta he Diplomat's Club (11.35pm). (S) (T) (860014). 11.30

BBC2

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Since the eventual with Male of the peach on it Street technique the

Their condition yes

Will Westermen

3.20 Children's ITV Rosie and Jim (S 3.10 ITV News He

5.30 5.00 Home and Aw ay (S) (T) (7728).

8.00 London Tonigh capital and the Sa

6.30

rew. (S) (T) Derbyshire doctors. Joanna is drawn angerous situation while romance w. (S) (T) (8897).

 More from the stereotypical middle-/somethings. Clare leaves Marshall, but the arms of Laura. Msanwhile, Henry nuble moving on (S) (T) (8656). **10.00**

11.00 ITV Nightly No (T) (562743). **/8j Weather** (T) (862120)

The Wright Verent Tom Conti (18 r**dicts.** US courtroom drama starring, 8217).

Carlton

9.25 Trisha (S) (T) (57276761), 12.:

11 Mopatop's Shop (4482507). **3.30**3) (9435120). **3.40** The Wombles (S)
Cow and Chicken (S) (T) (9445507).
() (6887014). **4.40** How II (S) (T)

owland Alvron and Wendy Douglas ng for the weekend (S) (994).

3.30

ht. Regional news update for the outh-East (T) (255).

Weather (1) (507).

90

EXIMPA Hoddle and the Healer. For the first time since being sacked, Glerin Hoddle gives an in-depth interview about his beliefs and his relationship with Elisen Drewery. See *Documentary of the Day*, below (T) (6439).

10.30 Queer as Folk. More from the Mancunian gays. Nathen's behaviour makes Hazel furious and Janice desperate (T) (66/8/15).

12.15 IIIII Darkness before Dawn (John Patierson 1992 US). Recovering heroin addict meets prescription drug-addicted woman whose problems stem from childhood abuse. No songs (465776)

Fishtank (92724). 1.00 Highlander (R)
Judge Judy (7865989). 2.20 Wish You
9335908). 2.45 Dead Men's Tales (8414nwide Football Leegue Extra (8854811).
(46003144). 4.15 ITV Nightscreen
News (14434). To 6am.

special hour-long edition of the osily dedicated to little Kelly love life. Regulars will know that she with her stepbrother Scott, while

" Conway gets beginner's nerves on how, but has to find his feet fast when essing to a orime (T) (8033).

Father Ted. It's Lent and Ted gives up cigarelles, Jack gives up alcohol and Dougal gives up his rollerblades (R) (S) (T) (88607).

11.10 The 11 O'Clock Show (T) (241965). 11.45 Fusion (T) (869236).

11,00

Strippers. Documentery (well, that's their excuse anyway) about strippers and lap dancers. Funny it should be in the C5 soft porn slot (9372946).

_**B**

Scottish play" given a New York gangster setting (albeit filmed in a British studio) with Paul Douglas, Ruth Roman and Sid James (41881). To 3.30am. ddicted woman whose problen od abuse. No songs (465705).

1,50

and Dangerous

(26850569). To 4.40am.

TELEVISION GUIDE BY GERARD GILBERT

1.10 The

The Jack Docherty Show. Phil Cornwell and larrett keep him company (S) (6409811).

Two (S) (3668811).

hannel

8618410). **10.30** This Morning (T) **0** Your Shout (7968014). **12.30** ITV
; Weather (T) (4207149). **12.55** London
18), 1.25 The Jerry Springer Show (S)
10 Home and Away (S) (T) (56119410).
Fortune (S) (T) (9114138).

9.00

Schools: Science in Focus (4095385), 8.20 What the Papers Sald (8528101), 8.30 Eurekal (8480675), 9.45 Stop, Look, Listen (8478830), 10.00 The Number Crew (5706846), 10.10 TVM (9676120), 10.25 How We Used to Live (9695255), 10.45 Worlds of Faith (9925859), 11.00 First Edition VI (3899588), 11.15 Stage One (3812439).

6.00

Sesame Street (R) (34120). **7.00** The Big Breakfast (10217).

dlines (T) (5753762).

11.30

Powerhouse (T) (5830). **12.00** Sesame Street (T) (55878). **12.30** Bewlitched (R) (S) (T) (83752). **1.00** Pet Rescue (S) (T) (13304). **1.30** Little Gerns (T) (59285946).

÷45

US). Popular tenor Mario Lanza made his cinematic debut as a singing truck driver plucked from obscurity (which is not far off what happened to Lanza, a grocer's son, in real life) by an opera star, Kathryn Grayson, in this glossy musical romance (41820830).

3.30

00

King of the Hill. Animated Middle America, Hank and Kahn fear the worst when Bobby, Connie and Joseph go exploring a cave (T) (897).

6.00 5 News, including First on Five. Kirsty Young takes her femiliar route (S) (T) (2887507).

5.30 100 Per Cent (S) (2980894). 5.20 5 News (S) (86490205).

6.30

Family Affairs. Pets tries to tob off Cat. Josh embarks on a new venture hoping to solve his financial problems (5) (7) (2978859).

Collectors' Lot (T) (385). 4.00 Fifteen to One (S) (T) (120). 4.30 Countdown (S) (T) (3778526). 4.55 Ricki Lake (T) (5884217). 5.30 Pet Rescue (T) (656).

6,30 **6.55 Planet Pop.** Beam me up (371491). Home Improvement. US shoom about a DIY obsessed father of three (S) (7) (596589).

7.00 Channel 4 News. Including sport and (870323). weather (T)

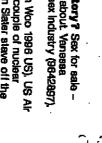
7.50 Farmed Out. Retiring Monmouth farmer Robert Smith auctions off his investock and machinery. (T) (416323).

8.00 Brookside. Jimmy's drugs past continues to catch up with him at school (1) (7894). 800

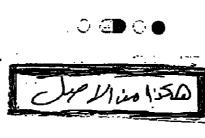
Classic British Cars. How micropars introduced motoring for the masses in the Fifties – and how the Mini spelt the end for these home-grown vehicles (T) (5101).

8.30 9.00

(DIDDE) Broken Arrow (John Wao 1996 US). US Air Force pilot John Travolta, steats a couple of nuclear warheads. Can ex-buddy Christian Slater stave off the big bang? See Film of the Dey, below (T) (8071120). Sex for Sale - What's the Story? Sex for sale - something Channel 5 knows a lot about. Vanessa Collingridge investigates Britain's sex industry (9642897).



Crime Report. John Taylor and further Investigative reports on arimes and issues in British justice (9623762).



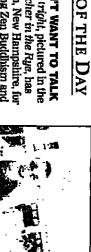
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(9.30pm BBC2) Jerome David Salinger tright, picture (9.30pm BBC2) Jerome David Salinger tright, picture (1950s), the reclusive author of The Catcher in the Ry been holed up near the town of Cornish, New Hamps 10 years, glving no interviews, practising Zen Buddhi writing letters to teenage girls. Sarah Aspinall's docu gnes in seach of the great man, 80 this year, talking to old friends and his one-time mistress, Joyce Maynard. ured in the Rye, has apshire, for dhism and cumentary to cousins, id. Salinger his home e get to see sors?



manager Glen Hoddle's apologia ("I got turned over"), which makes the fair point that he is only one of many football conches to use faith healers this replacement in the national team, Kevin Keegan, has allegedly visited one himself and that his views on reincurnation are shared with more than half of the world's population. Both Hoddle and Elleen Drewery (right), his infamous faith healer; break their silences in this supportative filer by Roger Mills.

FILM OF THE DAY

disappointing Hollywood debut with the Jean-Claude Van. Damme vehicle Hard Turyet, Hong Kong action-movie stylist John Woo had better luck with this bigger bucks piece of smush-hang-wallop. It stars John Travolta as a barmy US Air Force pilot who has nabbed a couple of nuclear warheady and is up against his old buddy in arms, Christian Slater, in a series of doglights over the Arizona desert. This kind of thing is always more enjoyable on the big screen, where Woo's amazing kinetics really take flight. Travolta was impressed enough to work with the director again, on 1997's FucciOff.



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00 5 News and Sport (S) (275746, 7.00 WideWorld (F) (S) (T) (8667439, 7.30 Milkshakel (S) (2182965), 7.35 Winnzleb House (R) 4481694), 8.00 Havekazoo (R) (S) (2384217), 8.30 Dappledown Farm (R) (S) (2384217), 8.30 Dappledown Farm (R) (S) (2383589), 9.00 Oasis Africa: the Floating World of Navalsha (F) (T) (7818435), 9.25 Russell Grant's Postcards (F) (4934589), 9.35 The Oprah Winfrey Show (R) (9538156), 10.25 Sunset Beach (S) (T) (3139149), 11.15 Leeza (S) (4482166), 12.00 5 News at Noon (S) (T) (2387304), 12.30 Family Affairs (S) (T) (855840), 1.30 The Roseanna Show (S) (784997), 2.00 100 Per Cent Gold (S) (9643526), 2.30 Good Afternoon (S) (7241014). Deceptions. The first half of a good trashy-sounding mini-series starring Stefanie Powers and Gina Lotobrigida (and finishing tomorrow). Two identical slaters - one married with children, the other an antique dealer - decide to swap fives. Why are identical twin sisters always doing this in the movies? (T) (5643651). THE TUESDAY REVIEW S trashy-sounding nd Gina

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7.30 Nature of Oz. How the Australian communications network comes under threat from wildlife (S) (T) 7.00 Knight Rider. A greedy land developer plans to put a stunt show out of business in another old silice of talking-car drama from the mid-Eightles (9614014).